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HISTORY
OF THE
FOREST OF ROSSENDALE.

NEWBIGGING.

Lms.

24.00



HISTORY
OF THE
FOREST OF ROSSENDALE.

SECOND EDITION.

ILLUSTRATED.



Yours faithfully,
Thos. Newberry.



History
OF THE
FOREST OF ROSSENDALE



HISTORY
OF THE
FOREST OF ROSSENDALE,

BY
THOMAS NEWBIGGING.

SECOND EDITION.

ILLUSTRATED.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
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1893.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

Some apology or explanation would seem to be due from me to those who will peruse the present Work, why I, who am no native of the Forest of Rossendale, should have presumed to write its History.

I am aware that there are those residing in Rossendale who, by their antiquarian and genealogical acquirements and their longer acquaintance with the locality, are more fitted for the duty, and have access, probably, to more copious sources of information than those of which I can boast; but I have not been able to learn that such have ever contemplated the undertaking, though their researches, if given to the public, would be of enduring interest. Their backwardness in this respect may, therefore, be accepted as one reason why I have taken it in hand.

Again, the longer such a work is delayed the more difficult it is of accomplishment, and the less trustworthy many of the sources of information become; and how desirable it is (applying the remark to any district) that the fragments of Fact and Legendary Lore which exist on our right hand and on our left, should be gathered up and strung together, however indifferently, before they become utterly dispersed and lost.

And how many there are amongst us who, possessing but vague notions of the past History of the Forest, would rejoice in a better acquaintance therewith—would delight to be told the story of its earlier existence—to learn more than they at present know of “the rude forefathers” who thinly tenanted its bleak hill-sides, or wandered centuries ago in its wooded cloughs; where, instead of the noise of manufacturing Industry, the rush of the Red Deer through the leafy covert alone broke the prevailing stillness.

But I have a further reason to assign for the present venture. A residence of nearly seventeen years has endeared me to the district (all the pleasanter for its rugged character) and its people; and should my efforts afford pleasure to the dwellers within the boundaries of the Ancient Forest, I shall be, in some measure, repaying the debt due for kindnesses received, and which I can neither enumerate nor forget.

I have another and final plea to urge—the desire of personal gratification. The enjoyment associated with the preparation of any History, however limited in its range, or humble in its pretensions, is only such as can be fully appreciated by those who undertake the pleasing labour. In following such pursuits we live a double life; for, whilst enjoying the intercourse of present friends, we delight ourselves in the society of those who have long since passed away.

A Work of this character, to be moderately complete, must necessarily glean its material from every available source. I have spared neither pains nor expense in the search for authorities. Dr. Whitaker's "History of the Parish of Whalley," of which this district forms a part, contains many interesting particulars relating to Rossendale and the neighbourhood; and I have freely dipped into the pages of that comprehensive work. In the "History of the County Palatine and Duchy of Lancaster," by Edward Baines, Esq., are also some references to this locality, and of the information therein contained I have occasionally availed myself. The elaborate papers "On the Battle of Brunanburh, and the probable Locality of the Conflict," by T. T. Wilkinson, Esq., F.R.A.S. of Burnley, read before the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, and published in the Society's Transactions, are replete with information of a Local character, and have enabled me to supply a chapter connecting the district with the events of the most important period in Saxon History.

In the early stages of the Work I received valuable assistance from documents kindly placed at my service by the late Miss

Maden, of Greens House, and Mr. George Howorth, of Bacup-fold. To George Hargreaves, Esq., J.P., of Newchurch, and to James Rushton, Esq., of the same place, I am indebted for much that is indispensable in elucidating the bygone manners and economy of the inhabitants.

During the progress of the Work I have received many valuable oral communications from different persons ; and several unknown correspondents have supplied me with interesting material.

For all the assistance received, I am sensibly obliged, and desire to tender my sincere thanks. Other sources of information are duly recognised in the body of the Volume. Lastly, to my friend, J. H. Redman, Esq., I am anxious to express my grateful acknowledgments for counsel in matters of Literary taste, and for his kindly aid in revising the proof sheets of the Work.

Let me now crave indulgence for any mistakes or omissions which may have been made. These cannot always be avoided, even where the time at the disposal of the writer is most ample ; and in the work that is performed during the intervals of leisure to be found in the midst of other responsible duties, they may be expected to occur.

T. N.

BACUP, *November 1, 1867.*

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

The writing of the HISTORY OF THE FOREST OF ROSSENDALE, more than a quarter of a century ago (how time slips away!) was a great pleasure to me. Perhaps, after all, I was fairly well qualified to undertake the work, because my duties during the years I resided in the locality led me constantly to traverse the district from end to end. In this way its places grew very familiar to me; I came in contact with many of the old inhabitants, I noted their characteristics, and became acquainted with circumstances and incidents that might, and probably would, have passed into oblivion (as doubtless many such have really done) had I not taken care to preserve them.

Besides actual observations and notes made on the spot, I searched original documents, and such works as were available, for material throwing light on past occurrences in the district, and read all that I could find written in books on the subject.

In this way my notes grew, and eventually took the form of a regular History. The work was widely and favourably reviewed; it has since become scarce, and copies of the first edition that find their way into the market fetch a price beyond what many people are willing, or can afford, to pay. These considerations have influenced me to undertake the revision of the work, and also to add to the record the further materials of interest which I have accumulated in the interval.

From a few friends, some of whom have passed away of recent years, I received both encouragement and assistance by the loan of original documents, and without these the work would have been less attractive and valuable. My personal acquaintance with Mr. J. J. Riley, J.P., the present publisher, justifies me in believing that the production of the volume will be highly creditable to him and acceptable to readers.

THOMAS NEWBIGGING.

Manchester, September 30th, 1893.

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HISTORY

OF THE

FOREST OF ROSSENDALE.

BOOK FIRST.

CHAPTER I.

"This is the Forest primeval."

—LONGFELLOW.

THE ancient Chase or Forest of Rossendale has little or no Roman history. No remains Roman in their character, with the exception of the road through Musbury, (*a*) leading to Ribchester, and the Beacon-remains on Thieveley Pike, so far as has yet been ascertained, have ever been discovered within its boundaries.

(*a*) Musbury in past times was the laund or park of the ancient Forest as will appear in a future chapter.

Whilst that powerful race, the offspring of the imperial Mistress of the world, remarkable for their proficiency alike in the arts of war and peace, have left behind them in neighbouring localities abundant memorials of their former presence and possession, it would seem as though Rossendale had held out no inducements to tempt them to its fastnesses, or to lead any of them to select it as their place of habitation.

The Celtic Britons, who doubtless constituted its first inhabitants, scant in number, and barbarous in their social and domestic habits and in their religious customs, were probably permitted by the Roman invaders of the island to remain unmolested in their primitive retreat.

Equally barren is Rossendale in early British relics. This, however, is not matter for surprise, as monuments of the British period are not abundant in any part of the kingdom.

If the religious rites and ceremonies of our half-naked and painted ancestors were ever performed within the glades of the Forest, the monumental remains of their Drudical worship have disappeared in the long centuries which have elapsed since their occupation of the land. But it is safe to conclude that the country adjacent to the Forest was too sparsely populated for the latter ever to have been selected as the site of the imposing and often cruel religious pageants of our barbarian forefathers. Their dwellings, generally of the rudest construction, were not calculated to survive the storms of time, or even the less formidable influences of the changeful seasons. These, therefore, have also perished, leaving behind them no trace of their existence.

The natural features of a country are usually its most permanent monuments; and if we turn to the hills and other localities comprised within or bordering on the district under consideration, we find that many of their present names—as for example, Crag, Cridden or Cribden, Cliviger, Hameldon, &c.—are decidedly of British origin.

That the Forest of Rossendale was the resort, probably for centuries, both before and after the Roman era, of wild animals

of different kinds, is sufficiently attested by names which exist to the present time.

To the thoughtful mind there is much food for varied reflection, pleasing and profitable, as it endeavours to picture to itself the appearance and characteristics of the dim Forest in its primeval existence, when the streams that tinkled through the valleys, pure as the air of its brown uplands, assuaged the thirst of its meaner inhabitants, and the umbrageous foliage afforded them kindly shelter from the heats of summer, and the cutting blasts of its more inclement seasons ; and long ere yet the busy din of manufactures and trade had invaded its shadowy precincts.

The wild boar tribe has left behind it tokens of its presence, deeper and more ineffaceable than the marks of its warlike tusks upon the trees of its favourite haunts. There is no mistaking the parentage of such names as Boarsgreave, Sowclough, and Swinshaw.

The wolf, ferocious and cowardly, has disappeared from its lurking-place in the Forest ; but we still retain amongst us the evidences of its occupation in the names, Wolfenden, Wolfenden Booth, and Wolfstones.

That a species of wild oxen ranged the hills and hollows where now our domestic animals graze, is proved by remains of horns and bones from time to time disinterred from the *debris* deposited in the valleys by the mountain-streams, whose courses have been diverted, or whose beds have been narrowed and appropriated to other uses.

The different varieties of the deer tribe, it is well known, were denizens of the Forest, which they wandered at will, and no doubt supplied both food and raiment to the partially-clothed human inhabitants in this and surrounding neighbourhoods.

At a meeting of the Manchester Geological Society, the late Captain Aitken exhibited a pair of antlered horns, a bone, and a short horn, and stated that the antlers and bone were discovered whilst excavating for a drain in a bed of river gravel, six feet from the surface, in the valley of the River Irwell, near Rawtenstall.

The gravel was very coarse, containing numerous large sandstone boulders, weighing from one to two hundredweight, and was principally derived from the carboniferous rocks of the surrounding hills—mixed with granite and trap pebbles. The river appeared to have changed its bed frequently, and had, doubtless, at one time flowed where the discovery was made. The antlers and leg bone were found at the same place, and as they did not exhibit any appearance of having been water-worn, it was reasonable to infer the animal died near the place where they were found. They appear to be the remains of red deer, which at one time were very abundant in the Rossendale valley. The short horn was found along with several others, about a quarter of a mile higher up the valley, and was probably the horn of *Bos Primigenius*. Near the same place two antlers were found a short time ago, resting upon a loamy clay, under a bed of peat, seven to eight feet deep, near a spring of water, in a depression of the surface, where animals formerly resorted for the purpose of drinking. (b)

Names having reference to the deer and its kindred are plentiful throughout the district; we have Deerplay, Stacksteads, evidently Stagsteads, Staghills, Harthill, Buckearth, Cridden or Cribden, which, says the historian of Whalley, "is pretty obviously *Keiru don*, the Hill of Stags. It is precisely such an elevation as that animal affects during the heat of summer, while the fallow deer graze on the plains or slopes beneath; and it might continue to merit an appellation acquired in the remotest ages of antiquity till within less than three centuries of the present time." (c) Bacup, or Baycop, the cop or hillock, according to the same authority, where the deer stood at bay.

Rockliffe—or rather Roclyffe, [roe cliffe,] as it is given in ancient documents—the cliff that afforded shelter to the roe—the cliff whose base was the favourite haunt of the roebuck—or the cliff where that animal, in its headlong haste to escape its pursuers,

(b) Transactions Manchester Geological Society vol. IV. p. 333.

(c) History of the Parish of Whalley and Honor of Clitheroe, by Thomas Dunham Whitaker, L.L.D., F.S.A., 3rd edition, p. 8.

may have, by a precipitate fall, met an untimely fate. This latter conjecture is by no means the most unlikely, because the two places in the neighbourhood of Bacup, bearing respectively the names of Roclyffe and Roclyffswood, are situated on opposite sides of the valley, and approaching the summit of the hill, just in the position where an incident of this character would be most likely to take place.

Wild animals of an inferior class were also plentiful, such as the beaver, the badger or brock, the otter, the fox, the wild cat, and the weasel, some of the names being preserved in Badger cote, Brock-clough, Tod carr, Foxholes, and Foxhill, all in Rossendale; and in regard to the ubiquitous squirrel, it is affirmed that, without once touching *terra firma*, it could traverse the Forest, leaping from bough to bough of the thick intermingling trees, from Rawtenstall to its extreme eastern limits at Sharneyford.

That the streams which spring from the hill-sides to glide through the different valleys, swarmed with fish of many kinds, we may well suppose, as, even at the present day, trout, though stunted in their growth, are found in at least two of the unpolluted tributaries of the river Irwell, viz., in the small stream running through Broadclough, and in the Dean Valley brook.

The great natural and prominent boundaries of the Forest of Rossendale are Flour-scar, Cliviger Moor, Hameldon Hill, Cribden Hill, Musbury Tor (*d*), Cowpe Law, Brandwood Moor, and Tooter Hill. The western side of Musbury was traversed by the famous Roman road known as "Watling Street," in the tenth iter of Antonine; while on the northern limits of the Forest the pack-horse road, called the "Limersgate," winds along the Rossendale side of the Cliviger ridge, and from thence away onward over the hill to Yorkshire. This is one of the most ancient roads in the locality, and in past times was a favourite route from the west

(*d*) The booths called Musbury, near Haslingden, and Yate and Pickup Bank, near Blackburn, though detached from the Forest of Rossendale proper, and lying outside of the boundary specified, are, nevertheless, reckoned as part of the Forest.

across the country to the adjoining counties; being travelled not only by the common people, but by the ecclesiastics and nobles of the land, in all the pomp of ancient dignity, and with the train of followers and retainers who, in bygone days more than at present, constantly hovered near the footsteps of those born to high estate. It is in the immediate vicinity of this ancient track, now so overgrown with grass and brown heath as scarcely to be distinguished from the other parts of the moor, that the river Irwell takes its rise; and we may with propriety assume that its neighbourhood would be a familiar and welcome halting-place for man and beast.

With respect to the derivation of the name Rossendale, the historian of Whalley remarks: "I was once inclined to deduce this word from the British *rhos*, a bottom; but the following etymology, for which I am indebted to Baxter, (*vide Gloss, in voc. Carnovæ,*) is much more appropriate:—'*Pagus iste, de Russeo puto graminum colore, Rossen dicitur, nam ejusmodi ericeum pascuum Britannorum vulgo Rhos dicitur.*' If there was a circumstance about the place which would strike the observation of the first colonists above every other, it must have been the brown and dreary hue of its native herbage, which the labours of three centuries have not been able to overcome." (e) It may fairly be questioned whether the labours of the last three centuries have not aggravated rather than improved the hue of the native herbage. We are inclined to believe that such is the fact; but in any case the name Russet-dale or Rossendale, is appropriate as describing the general appearance of the district. Bailey has 'Ros-land, heathy land; watery, moorish land.' In a review of the first edition of this work, the late Mr. H. Cunliffe remarks: "The origin and derivation of the name Rossendale are wrapt in obscurity; but we are inclined to accept the explanation from Bailey. It is evident that at one time the space between Bacup and Tunstead Thrutch, was one deep pool of water; and so full of bogs was the distance between Waterfoot and Hardsough, that Camden relates how prior to entering within those limits, horsemen engaged in the chase dismounted and knelt in

(e) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 220.

prayer to the blessed Mary for deliverance from the sepulchral quicksands."

Dr. March in his *East Lancashire Nomenclature*, referring to local names that show traces of historical persons, has "Holen weold Wrosnum," Holen ruled the Wrosns, two names that are still found together in Hollin and Rossendale." The same authority suggests that "Hrotan" may be traced in Rawtenstall, and "Dedwin" in Deadwen Clough. (f)

The orthography of proper names in ancient times is proverbial for its irregularity, and in no word is this quality more marked than in the spelling of Bacup, which occurs in the following different forms:—Bacap, Bacop, Bacopec, Baccoppe, Baccoppe, Baccop, Baccup, Baycop, Backup, Backup, Backup, Backup, Baicup, and Bacup. With regard to the derivation of the name, Mr. James Hargreaves in his interesting life of John Hirst, remarks, "The deer in their excursions for pasture or play, would run down the valley from Deer-play hill as far as where the village of Bacup now stands, and then return, or back up again. From this circumstance, it is said, the place derived its name, 'Backup.' But modern times have dropped the *k*, and so changed both the spelling and the pronunciation into 'Bacup.'" This explanation of the etymology of the word does not appear to me to be the best. The idea is rather too far-fetched to merit acceptance. There is, to say the least of it, a want of dignity about it, which leads us to inquire if no better account of the origin of the name can be given; and, indeed, the same writer, as though he had experienced a similar feeling, adds further—"Since the above was written, the writer has been informed that a certain learned gentleman of the law, in pleading a cause before the court at Lancaster, contended that the village derived its name from *Bay*, red, and *Cops*, earth—viz., Red-earth—and that it should be spelled Baycop. This etymology does not appear very probable, as the soil in the vicinity is in general not red, but black."

(f) *East Lancashire Nomenclature*, by H. C. March, M.D. pp. 47, 48.

If I may be permitted to offer a further suggestion—accepting the signification of *bay* in this connexion to be red, and *cop* to mean hill, the term may have been used metaphorically to indicate the large abundance of red deer frequenting the hillside, making it in appearance a *bay cop*, or red hill. Mr. Wilkinson suggests “Back-coppice,” the back clearing on the sloping sides of the valley, which is not very satisfactory; and “Bay-copse,” with reference to the colour of the native herbage. In support of the latter, I have often been struck with the red appearance which the uncultivated moorlands around Bacup present in certain seasons of the year. Mr. Henry Cunliffe suggested that the name was not originally given to a hamlet, but rather to a locality, to whose direct approach, in the primitive state of the Forest, Coupe Valley would be the *via media*. Back Coupe, therefore, in Mr. Cunliffe’s opinion, seems to be a more reasonable form of the original than any other that have been suggested. There is also Back Cowm within a couple of miles of Coupe, which bears the same relation geographically to Cowm as Bacup does to Coupe. (*g*). On the other hand, Dr. March asserts that Coupe has nothing to do with Bacup, and believes the latter to be either the Anglo-Saxon bæc-cop or back-hope. He prefers the latter, and would class it with Widdup, Stirrup, Harrop, but the oldest spelling yet obtained, Bakcop, drives him to the former. (*h*.)

The derivation of the other place-names, Newchurch, Waterfoot, and Crawshawbooth, is obvious enough.

(*g*) Manchester City News, Notes and Queries, vol. vi., pp 178, 194.

(*h*) Ibid., p 184. See also East Lancashire Nomenclature, p. 18.



CHAPTER II.

"Ho! forth my sword! Ho! up my men!
My standard's folds uprear;
Look out! my ancient enemies,
The ocean thieves, are here."

—CHARLEMAGNE AND THE SEA-KINGS.

"Here, Athelstan, King—of earls the lord, of barons the bracelet-giver—
and eke his brother Edmund the Etheling, won life-long glory in battle, with
edges of swords, near Brunanburh.

"Carnage greater has not been in this island, of people slain."—*Saxon Ode
on the Battle of Brunanburh.*

THERE is a well-known earthwork called the Dyke or Dykes,
situated in the neighbourhood of Broadclough, Bacup. This
singular monument of a bygone age is well worthy of a visit. By a
slight exercise of the imagination the spectator may cause to pass
before his mental vision the scenes long since enacted in its vicinity,
and associate in spirit with the sturdy Danish warriors who in
all probability manned and defended the intrenchment.

Rossendale is not rich in relics; but for extent and importance
the Dykes at Broadclough eclipse a multitude of lesser archaeological
remains to be found in other localities. This work is described by
Dr. Whitaker, the historian, as an "intrenchment to which no tradition
is annexed that may serve to ascertain either its antiquity, or the end
it was designed to answer. It is cut from the gentle slope of a rising
ground, in one direction, nearly parallel to the horizon, for more than
six hundred yards in length, not exactly in a right line, but following
the little curvatures of the surface. In one part of the line, for about
a hundred yards, it appears to have been levelled, and in another, where
it crosses a

clough, is not very distinct; but more than four hundred yards of the line exhibit a trench eighteen yards broad in the bottom, and of proportionate depth—a most gigantic, and at the same time almost inexplicable work, as it could only have been intended for some military purpose; and yet, in its present state, must have been almost useless as a fortification—for, though it would have defended a great army in front, yet their flanks might have been turned with the greatest ease, and the whole might have been destroyed in their trenches from the high grounds which immediately command it. On the whole I am inclined to think it one side of a vast British camp, which was intended to have been carried round the crown of the hill, but for some reason, never to be recovered by us, was left in its present unfinished and useless state. Abating for the herbage with which it is covered, the present appearance of it is precisely that of an unfinished modern canal, though much deeper and wider in its dimensions.” (a)

The same monument of antiquity is thus alluded to by the late Mr. T. T. Wilkinson, in a paper read before the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, entitled “The Battle of Brunanburh, and the probable Locality of the Conflict”:—“Broadclough Dyke is a formidable and gigantic intrenchment near Bacup. It measures more than one thousand eight hundred feet in length, is situated on the edge of a gentle slope, and has a trench at least fifty-four feet broad at the bottom. What can have been the object of such an extensive earthwork can, of course, only be a matter of conjecture. From its position it is capable of protecting a large army in front, but it is easily accessible from the east, and must have been abandoned by its defenders whenever the enemy had turned their flank. Its construction can only have been suggested by temporary necessities, since it has evidently been abandoned in an unfinished state.”

There are several features of interest connected with the Dyke at Broadclough worthy of remark, which have either escaped the

(a) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 221.

observation of those who have already described it, or for some other reason are left unnoticed by them.

In several parts of the Dyke, in patches throughout its entire length, and within twenty-four or thirty inches from the surface, where the herbage is worn off, the shale and soil are clearly visible in their natural, undisturbed layers, proving beyond question that the earth-wall or rampart has not been formed from the loose material dug from the trench, but that, as at present seen, the height of the Dyke (which is eleven or twelve feet in the deepest part) corresponds to the depth of the original excavation. It therefore becomes interesting to inquire how the super-abundant soil was disposed of. Either this was originally thrown up by those employed in its construction, so as to form a wall throughout the entire extent, or it was removed to some adjacent hollow in the hill-side. If the former, then the original Dyke must have been nearly double its present height, because the hill which rises to the rear of the earthwork is a continuation of the gradual and regular slope of the land lying below, and extending to the turnpike road; or else a second dyke in advance of the first was formed, and which, being composed of loose material, has been levelled by time. With respect to, and in support of, the second conjecture, that the soil was removed to some contiguous hollow, the intelligent tenant occupying the farm on which the Dyke is located informs me that he has repeatedly had occasion to dig trenches in its vicinity, a little distance below, nearer to the turnpike road; and although he has gone to a depth of six, eight, and even ten feet, he has invariably found the soil to be of a loose and apparently filled-up character, largely intermixed with fragments of sticks and bark, and other substances foreign to the soil in its natural bed. He also states that the earth is of such a friable nature that, though only at a depth of three feet from the surface, he has had occasion to shore up the sides of the trench with timber to prevent them falling in—in short, altogether differing from the material of an excavation through a natural deposit. The work extends from the farm called "Dykes-house" to the edge of "Whitaker's Clough,"

but is not now continuous throughout its entire length, being obliterated or levelled in the centre for a considerable space;—the entrance to the end farthest from Bacup being through a cleft or cutting in the earthwork.

I am far from coinciding in the view taken both by Dr. Whitaker and Mr. Wilkinson, that “it has evidently been abandoned in an unfinished state, because it was not carried round the crown of the hill.” There is nothing, in my opinion, about the work which in the least indicates any such intention on the part of those with whom it originated. To have carried it over the hill would have been a stupendous undertaking indeed, as any one viewing the ground will readily admit. But even supposing it had been so carried, the work, according to this theory, would still have been incomplete unless the rampart had been continued either along the summit or on the other side, and over the hill a second time to unite its extremities, thus forming a continuous wall. Neither am I prepared to agree that it was easily accessible by an attacking force from the east, thus rendering a flanking operation easy of accomplishment.

It should be borne in mind that the nature of the approaches to the work has undergone a material alteration since the time of its construction. It is in the highest degree probable—amounting almost to a certainty—that the rising ground to the rear and at its extremities was protected by natural defences in the shape of trees and a thick undergrowth of shrubs, forming an *abatis* which would readily be strengthened by the ingenuity of the defenders, and than which, even at the present day, with all the appliances of modern warfare, few better means of protection or defence could be wished for or devised.

The careful investigations of Mr. Wilkinson have invested this singular work with more of interest than had before been associated with it, by his having, with marked ability and perseverance, collected together a mass of exhaustive evidence, enforced by a chain of argument the most conclusive, with regard to the much-debated locality of the great struggle between the Saxons and the

Danes, which he endeavours, and most successfully, to show is to be found in the immediate neighbourhood of Burnley; and in connection with which the earthwork in question constituted, probably, a not unimportant adjunct. (b)

This decisive conflict, won by the Saxon king, Athelstan, against the confederated forces of the Danes, the Welsh, and the Scots, under the Danish prince, Anlaf, completely established the supremacy of the former, and raised the Saxon character in the estimation of surrounding nations. In order fully to appreciate the vast importance of this victory to the Saxons and their ruler, and to invest the old Dyke with that interest to which it seems entitled, it is necessary briefly to recount the history of the period for some time prior to the occurrence of the battle.

About the end of the eighth century, the Danes and Norwegians (Scandinavians) began to make their predatory incursions on the southern and eastern coasts of Britain, ravaging wherever they penetrated, and leaving destruction and desolation in their track. This warlike and perfidious race inhabited the shores and islands of the northern seas; but it was their boast that the sea itself was their natural home and empire, over which they reigned supreme. They were known by the name of "Vikings," or "Children of the Creeks." These bands of Vikings had leaders, whom they styled "king," who were chosen for their pre-eminence in skill, daring, and ferocity. According to their bards, he only was accounted worthy to be a "sea-king" who "never slept beneath a roof, nor quaffed the horn at the covered hearth." (c) They were, moreover, Pagan idolaters in their worship, and took especial delight in plundering and persecuting all who bore the name of Christian.

During the reign of Ethelred, (A.D. 866-871,) the Saxon king of Wessex and Kent, the Danes with a strong force invaded and nearly overran the island. A series of sanguinary conflicts between the Saxons and their invaders, extending over a period of

(b) See Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, vol. ix. pp. 21-42.

(c) Doyle's Chronicle of England, p. 41.

five years, with varying success, but on the whole favourable to the Northmen, finally resulted in King Ethelred's death, caused by a wound received in battle. His brother Alfred (afterwards surnamed "the Great") succeeded to the vacant throne, A.D. 871. This wise ruler, of whom England has just reason to be proud, was for more than six years unable to cope successfully with his powerful and treacherous foes—until at the battle of Ethandune, after a long and bloody conflict, the Saxons were completely victorious. (d) During the remaining years of the reign of Alfred, the country of the Saxons enjoyed—with the exception of the invasion by the sea-king Hasteng—comparative tranquillity.

Under Edward, the eldest son of Alfred, who succeeded his father, and reigned for a period of twenty-four years, the Saxons increased in power and military ascendancy throughout the country. This warlike and sagacious king devoted his energies to subjugating the Northmen, and consolidating the Saxon rule, by drawing into closer union the different states into which the country was divided. But we now approach that period in Saxon history, the events of which more immediately concern and interest us in the present inquiry.

Upon the death of Edward, A.D. 925, his eldest surviving son, Athelstan, ascended the throne of Wessex, at the age of thirty. He had been a favourite of his grandfather Alfred, who directed his studies in the military profession, and early instilled into his mind an absorbing love of his country, and those principles of patriotism which adorned his life.

Throughout his vigorous and brilliant reign, by his warlike prowess, no less than his wise administration of the civil affairs of his kingdom, he reflected credit on the teaching of his noble ancestor.

On the death of Sihtric, the Danish king of Northumbria, who had espoused a sister of the Anglo-Saxon monarch, Athelstan promptly extended his sway, by annexing that important kingdom to his own dominions.

(d) Doyle's Chronicle of England, p. 51.

In those days of semi-barbarism, when might took the place of right, and when

"The good old rule, the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can,"

was in full force and vigour, it almost amounted to a crime to be unfortunate. Accordingly, Sihtric's two sons, Guthfred and Anlaf, fled from the country to escape the death by assassination, or at least the persecution, that usually awaited princes in their forlorn condition. Guthfred took refuge among the Scots, and Anlaf sought the shores of Ireland.

It is probable, however, that Athelstan would have exercised clemency towards the brothers; for the elder, on surrendering himself some time afterwards, was received with kindness by the king, and might have lived in peace had not his roving Danish propensities led him to renounce his quiet life, and assume that of marauder and sea-king.

Anlaf, who was ambitious to recover the kingdom of his royal parent, had vigorously employed the years of his exile in organising a force to depose the Anglo-Saxon ruler; and having perfected his plans, and secured the alliance of the Scots, the Welsh, and his Danish kindred, he set sail from Ireland on his expedition, with a fleet of six hundred and thirteen vessels. Most writers on the subject state that Anlaf landed the whole of his forces in the mouth of the Humber; but no substantial proof is offered in support of this very improbable theory. It is scarcely to be supposed that Anlaf would risk a long and dangerous voyage with the whole of his numerous and uncertain craft, when he was already almost within sight of shores where he might with greater ease, and with less risk of being confronted by an opposing army, disembark his hosts.

Accepting, then, the conclusions at which Mr. Wilkinson has arrived in the paper previously alluded to, that a portion—probably the largest portion—of Anlaf's ships sought the estuaries of

the Mersey, the Ribble, the Wyrè, and the Lune, on the banks of which their human freight was landed, we may in imagination try to picture to ourselves the march of the grand confederate army that came to wrest the kingdom of Northumbria from the sway of the great Saxon ruler. The bowmen, the spearmen, the gaily-caparisoned horses; the hosts with their battle-axes and burnished shields; the flaunting banners, bearing the Norwegian and Danish insignia, and all the miscellaneous paraphernalia of ancient warfare, would compose a picture worthy of the canvas of a Falcone or a Salvator Rosa; and having safely trod the plain of Lancashire, and drawn near to the mountain fastnesses where the conflict was to be waged which should decide the fate of Northumbria: (e)—as night closed with its dark mantle upon the embattled hosts, how the beacon fires would flare forth their red signals from hill to hill!—Cribden, Hameldon, Pendle, Thieveley Pike, Blackstonedged, and the rest. The grandeur of the scene would stir the indifferent, and inflame the patriotic to those deeds of valour which the Saxon bard has endeavoured to depict in that ode, (f) which time has spared from the oblivion that has fallen upon the writings of more prosaic chroniclers.

If Saxonfield (Saxifield), near Burnley, was the scene of the engagement between the troops of Athelstan and Anlaf, then it is in the highest degree probable that one or other of the rival armies, most likely that of the Saxon king, forced, or attempted to force, a passage through the valley of the Irwell; and that here they were encountered by the confederated hosts intrenched behind the vast earthwork at Broadclough that commanded the line of their march. Whether this was taken in flank or rear by the Saxon warriors, or whether it was successful in arresting their progress, or delaying the advance of a portion of their army, it is impossible to determine; but that it was constructed for weighty strategical purposes, under

(e) Northumbria, one of the most important and powerful of the Saxon kingdoms under the Heptarchy, comprehended Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Yorkshire, and the chief portion of Lancashire.

(f) Saxon Ode on the Battle of Brunanburh.

the belief that its position was of the last importance, so much of the remains of this extraordinary work which still exists, affords sufficient evidence.

The battle of Brunanburh settled for the time being the position of the Danes in the land ; the Saxon arms were completely victorious. The battle raged from early morn till sunset, amid fearful carnage, the best blood of the country being shed. Five sea-kings, seven jarls, and many thousands of brave warriors were sacrificed in the strife.

"Here Athelstan, king, of earls the lord, of barons the bracelet-giver, and eke his brother, Edmund Etheling, won life-long glory in battle, with edges of swords, near Brunanburh.

"They clove the board-wall, they hewed the war-lindens. Offspring of Edward they, in battle oft, 'gainst every foe the land defended—its hoards and its homes. Such was their noble natures, derived from their fathers. The foe they crushed ; the Scottish people and the shipmen fated fell.

"The field reek'd with warriors' blood, since the sun was up at morning-tide. The mighty planet, God's candle bright, the eternal Lord's, glided o'er the grounds, till the noble creature sank to her settle. There lay many a warrior by javelins strewed ; northern men, shot over shields ; also Scots, weary and war-sad.

"West-Saxons onwards, in bands, throughout the day, pursued the footsteps of the loathed nations. They hewed the fugitives behind, amain, with swords mill-sharp. Mercians refused not the hard hand-play to any heroes who, with Anlaf, over the ocean in the ship's bosom, this land sought, fated to the fight.

"Five lay on the battle-stead, youthful kings, by sword in slumber laid ; so seven eke of Anlaff's earls ; shipmen and Scots of the army countless.

"There was made to flee the Northmen's chieftain ; by need constrained to the ship's prow with a little band. The bark drove afloat. The king, outgoing on the fallow flood, his life preserved. So there, also, Constantine, hoary warrior, came by flight to his

north country. He had no cause to exult in the communion of swords.

"Here was his kindred band of friends o'erthrown on the folkstead, in battle slain : and his son he left on the slaughter-place, mangled with wounds, young in the fight. He, the grizzly-haired baron, the old deceiver, had no cause to boast of the bill-clashing ; nor had Anlaf any more with the remnant of their armies.

"They had no cause to exult that they in war's works, the better men were in the battle-stand, at the conflict of banners, the meeting of spears, the concourse of men, the traffic of weapons—that they on the slaughter-field with Edward's offspring played.

"The Northmen departed in their nailed barks ; bloody relic of darts, o'er the deep water, Dublin to seek—again to seek Ireland, shamed in mind.

"So too the brothers, both together, King and Etheling, (g) their country sought, the West-Saxons' land, in war exulting.

"They left behind them, the corse to devour, the sallow kite, and the swart raven with horned beak, and the dusky vulture, and the white-tailed heron ; the corse to enjoy came the greedy war-hawk, and the gray beast, the wolf of the wood.

"Carnage greater has not been in this island ever yet, never before this, of people slain by edges of swords."

Anlaf, with the scattered remnant of his forces, escaped from the field, and fled again to Ireland, as the ode relates ; while Athelstan, the Saxon, was raised to the proud position of king of England, and peace was secured to the country during the remaining years of his life and reign.

I am not aware that any considerable relics have been found within the Forest, which would connect the district more immediately with the military presence of the Saxons or Danes ; but this may have arisen for want of the frequent use of the plough in our fields. So strong, however, are the probabilities in favour of the conjecture that the Dyke constituted a portion of the line of

(g) Etheling or Atheling, in Saxon times, was the name or title given to the heir to the crown.

defensive works in connection with the great battle strife, that it is not at all unlikely that some other memorials of the time may yet be discovered in the locality.

But we are not entirely without evidence of even this direct confirmatory nature ; for Dr. Whitaker (*h*) states that, "In the Red Moss, a part of the two hundred and forty acres once within the Forest, (*i*) iron arrow-heads have often been found. These, it is probable, had been aimed against the deer, rather than used in battle. In a field belonging to the author was found a Torques of the purest gold. It was lying upon the surface, having been turned up by the plough or harrow, and picked up by a reaper. The weight is above one ounce and a half. It was originally a complete circle, then bent back upon itself, and twisted round, excepting at the ends, which are looped, as if intended to be fastened about the neck by a cord. It is now in my possession."

It is not unlikely that the learned historian, had he lived under the light of recent investigations, might have formed a different opinion with respect to the original use of the arrow-heads, and would rather have attributed their presence to purposes of a warlike character.

The beacon-remains on the neighbouring hills which Mr. Wilkinson conjectures may have been successively used by Britons, Romans, Saxons, and Danes, are highly interesting monuments of antiquity. The one on Thieveley Pike is quite distinct, and is a complete circle in the form of a basin, the circumference round the centre of the embankment being about eighty feet ; many of the stones within the ring, and in the immediate vicinity, bear evident marks of having been charred or scorched by fire.

In earlier times, when the means of intercommunication were slow and uncertain, these beacons played a most important part in the defences of the country, being kept in readiness, and used by the authorities on occasions of civil broil and commotion, or

(*h*) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 366.

(*i*) Now in Cliviger.

threatened invasion by foreign powers. Accordingly, we find that during the times of disquiet in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1588, when the great "Spanish Armada" was hourly expected to land its invading hosts on the Lancashire coast, a mandate was issued by the queen's "right trustie and well-beloved the Lord Strange," to Henry, Earl of Derby, as Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Lancaster, to the effect that the beacons in every part of the county were to be specially taken in charge, and kept in continual readiness for kindling, that they might flash forth their telegraphic signals, and call the country to arms on the approach of danger. Severe punishments were threatened to be inflicted on any person raising a false alarm.

The circular basin form, of which Thieveley furnishes a good example, was that usually adopted in the construction of the beacon bed, the centre being hollowed or scooped out, and surrounded by an embankment, doubtless as a protection to the fire, to prevent its being extinguished when strong winds prevailed.

On a clear day a magnificent view is obtained from the Pike, embracing to the west Hameldon Hill and the country stretching far beyond to the Irish Sea; to the north-west, Pendle Hill, Ingleborough, and Pennyghent; while due north are Worsthorpe and Beadle Hill; to the east Black Humbledon, and inclining a little farther south, Stoodley Pike; more southerly still, Tooter (*j*) Hill, below Sharneyford, and the bleak profile of Blackstonedged; while nearly due south are Coupe Law, Cribden, Musbury Tor, Holcombe Hill, and, beyond, the great plain of Lancashire.

(*j*) *Toot*, Dut. to look out.—"We eftsones come to the rising up of the hill towards ye Mount of Sion, which is called the *tootyng* hill, or peake, or high beakon place, or watching toure, from whence to see a ferre of."—*Udal*. Luke xix.

A Correspondent (Mr. J. R. Boyle) suggests that the name of Tooter Hill may be derived from the name of the Celtic god Tot. In confirmation of this he refers to Harland and Wilkinson's *Folk Lore*, where (page 45,) it is pointed out that Toland in his *History of the Druids* speaks of Toot hills as the hills dedicated to the worship of the Celtic god Tot, or Tent, or Tentates, the same with the Egyptian Thoth, and from which "the grand sacred fires

Occupying, as it does, a central position, the beacon lights of Thieveley would blazon forth their ominous signals, and answering fires would soon flare on every surrounding hill. This is no vague, unsubstantial picture of the imagination : the existing vestiges of occupation by one or other, or all of the primitive tribes in succession, speak a language that can scarcely be misunderstood.

of the Bel-Tine flamed thrice a year, at three of the great festivals of the Druids, in honour of Beal, or the sun, viz., on the eve of May-day, on Midsummer-eve, and on the eve of the 1st November." There is much relevancy in this suggestion.



CHAPTER III.

"The mislayer of a mere stone is to blame."—BACON.

"Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen."—DEUT. xxvii. 17.

"Men may come, and men may go,
But I go on for ever."—TENNYSON.

THE River Irwell takes its rise in Cliviger (*a*) in a large tract of moorland, to the right of, and including Derplay Hill, the whole of which originally constituted a part of the Forest. Owing, however, to the carelessness or indifference of the proprietors residing in Bacup Booth, which at one time embraced what is now a portion of Cliviger, or probably to the superior cunning or unscrupulousness of those of the latter, this extensive tract was lost to Rossendale and became a part of Cliviger.

It would appear that in the earlier years of the reign of Edward IV, the meres marking the boundary between Cliviger and the Forest had been wrongfully extended into Bacup Booth; and although the proprietors of the latter during the reign of Elizabeth instituted a suit for the recovery of this part of the common, a prescriptive right was established against them.

"The original boundary between Cliviger and the Forest of Rossendale" (states Dr. Whitaker) "was unquestionably the old dyke which traverses the ridge of the hill nearly from east to west by Pikelaw. The freeholders of Cliviger, however, are now possessed of a large tract of moor ground on the other side; a poor

(*a*) Formerly Clivacher (Anglo-Saxon), rocky field.—East Lancashire Nomenclature by H. C. March, M.D., p. 21.

compensation for the loss of their freehold rights in all their ancient commons, which the acquirement of this occasioned.

"In the earlier part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a suit was instituted by the proprietors of the vaccary of Horelaw Head, otherwise Bacop Booth, against those of Cliviger, to recover this parcel of common, on the following grounds:—

"It appeared from the evidence of several ancient persons, who remembered the boundaries before the disforesting of Rossendale, that the meres (*b*) lay from Tower Hill (near Bearnshaw Tower) to Hag-gate, or the old road along the Haia Dominicalis, still called Old Dyke, thence to Routandclough Head, thence to Pike Law, and thence to Derplay Hill. And this division nature as well as tradition pointed out.

"But on the other hand, it was proved on the behalf of Cliviger, that, about sixty years before, certain marked stones then remaining, and including the disputed ground, had been laid as meres by Sir John Townley, knight, in the presence of Sir Peter Legh, steward of the Honor of Clitheroe, and Sir John Booth, receiver.

"Secondly, it appeared from court rolls, that two acres of land, parcel of the two hundred and forty acres in dispute, had been granted to Robert Whitaker, of Holme, as part of the common of Cliviger within Dirpley Graining, Anno 17 Edward IV., and two acres more to Thomas, his son, Anno . . . Henry VII.

"To all these things the people of the vaccary replied, that they were done without their knowledge or privity.

"On the whole, there can be no doubt that the Old Dyke had been the original boundary of the forest, but that the meres of Cliviger had been wrongfully extended at some indefinite period before the 17th of Edward IV., in consequence of which a prescription was established against the foresters.

"Under this impression, therefore, they abandoned the suit, and consented to enclose along the meres which Sir John

(*b*) Meres or Meers: lakes or other waters; but the term is often applied to dykes or stones set up to mark the bounds of property.

Townley had laid ; and the outfence then built forms the present boundary." (c)

Harrison, in his *Description of England*, remarks :—" The Irwell is a notable water which riseth above Bacop, and goeth thence to Rossendale, and in the way to Aytenfielde it taketh in a water from Haselden. After this confluence, it goeth to Newhall, Brandlesham, Bury, and above Radcliffe joineth with the Rache water, a fair stream. Being therefore past these two, our Irwell goeth on to Clifton, Holland, Edgecroft, Strangways, and to Manchester, where it uniteth with the Yrke, that runneth therinto by Royton, Middleton, Heaton Hill, and Blakeley. Beneath Manchester also it meeteth with the Medlocke, that cometh thither from the N.E. side of Oldham, and between Clayton and Garret Halls, and so between two parks falling into it about Holm. Thence our Irwell goeth forward to Woodsall, Whicleswije, Eccles, Barton, and Denelham, it falleth near unto Flixton, into the water of the Mersey.

Yrke, Irwell, Medlocke, and Tame,
When they meet with the Mersey, do lose their name."

The first mention of the Irwell is to be found in the charter of Brandwood, by Roger de Lacy, about the year 1200. With respect to the origin of the name, opinions differ.

Mr. Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, states that the Irwell springs from a double fountain near the upper part of a hill between Broadclough and Holme ; that it carries its waters on the western side of Mancenion, and was therefore denominated Ir Gaeil, Irwell, Irwill, or the western torrent. This explanation is plausible, and is worthy of consideration in any investigations as to the origin of the name.

Dr. Whitaker, the historian of Whalley, entirely differs from the conjectures of his namesake, and he elaborately endeavours to prove that the word is deduced " from a nearer and less venerable source than the British language." He states that " Ere, in the

(c) Hist. Whalley, pp. 365, 366.

semi-Saxon dialect of this neighbourhood, is hoar, used as a substantive; and very high grounds, which are often gray with sleet or hoarfrost while the meadows and pastures beneath remain unsprinkled, are said to be in the Ere. Now this remark is strikingly verified in Derplay Hill, which, many times in winter, presents a hoary head, while the lowlands of Rossendale retain their native brown. Erewell, therefore, is the spring in the Ere. The neighbouring Whitewell probably derives its name from the same circumstance; and the very next elevation north-west of Derplay Hill in ancient charters (for the present coarse orthography of the word rests on no authority) is styled Hor, or Horelaw." (d)

This is ingenious reasoning, but not altogether convincing. The quality of whiteness in winter is by no means peculiar to Derplay, but is probably more or less common to every lofty elevation in the United Kingdom; and that this occasional white appearance of the hill top—which would surely be neither unusual nor unexpected in the winter season—should be the cause of the origin of the name, is not satisfactorily demonstrated. Had the crown or summit of Derplay Hill retained its white appearance all the year round, the argument might have been indisputable; but the whiteness is by far the exception, and not the rule. The names of the neighbouring stream, Whitewell, and Horelaw Hill certainly give weight to the argument of the learned historian, but the coincidence may be accidental, nevertheless. But further, in a deed in the possession of Mr. Whitaker, late of Broadclough, of the time of Henry VII., and to which reference is made by Baines, in his "History of Lancashire," (e) the name of the adjacent hill is spelt Harlawhead, and not Horlawhead, thus:—

"Harlawhead, *alias vocat.* Bacopboothe. Also there is another vaccherye called Harleyhead, otherwise called Bacopboothe, late in Ferme, at £8 13s. 4d. by yere, is now letten to Lawrence Lorde, Alexander Lorde, John Whiteacr, and Christopher Tattersall for £11 yere. Ex. per W. Tusser."

(d) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 226.

(e) Vol iii. p. 275.

In regard to the opinion of Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, that Irwell is a British name signifying "Western torrent." Mr. H. Kerr, a well-known local antiquary, remarks, that "whatever it is in its lower reaches, the Irwell in its upper course at least, is certainly a torrential stream, and has on many occasions proved itself a most destructive torrent, as the inhabitants of Rossendale know to their cost. The terrible flood of 1870, and the scarcely less disastrous one in July, 1881, are fresh in the memory of all who dwell near its banks. The rapidity of the stream when in flood may be estimated from the fact that within the limits of Rossendale it has a fall of about 800 feet in a distance of some eight miles." Mr. Kerr, however, inclines to the opinion of some other authorities that the prefix "ere" or "ire" means simply water, stream or river; and that the same word in various forms occurs in the designation of other rivers such as the Yure, the Orwell, and the Æ.

The following is the account of the origin of the name, Irwell, in "Mamecestre," edited by the late John Harland, F.S.A., (f) "The Irwell, from *Ir*. (Welsh), fresh, vigorous; and *Gwili* (Welsh), a name for river, as the Gwili in Carmarthenshire; properly that which turns or winds—a winding stream. In composition, 'gwili' loses the initial G."

Other derivations have been suggested, as, for instance, that the name may have reference to the Chief Justice in "Eyre" of the Forest. 2. The *Higher* Well, afterwards changed to *Irwell*, as contradistinguished from the lower well; the two together constituting the "double fountain" spoken of by Mr. Whitaker, the historian of Manchester. 3. The more poetical one, that it may have been named after the fabulous nymph of Arcadia, "Hyrie," who, it is said, in lamentation for the loss of her son, dissolved into a fountain. Hypothetical as these are, any one of them, in my judgment, is more probable than the derivation given by Dr. Whitaker.

There can be so little of certainty in any investigations concerning the origin of the name ; and so much room for doubt and contention, seeing that the materials for forming an opinion are scarce and inadequate, that I have no desire to dogmatise on the subject, or unnecessarily to dispute the conclusions of previous writers thereon. These, however, are so unsatisfactory, that I hope to be excused for stating an impression which I entertain, that the name is, after all, one which has been handed down to us from our earliest British ancestors. I am fully sensible of the deficiencies of the argument, and it is with some diffidence that I advance it at all ; but it is not less plausible than those already put forward, and it may serve to awaken a degree of interest on a subject which, perhaps, has not received the attention it deserves.

“Eire is the name of one of the ancient Celtic deities, who is commemorated in such words as Aldeire (Auldearn,) Strathéire (Strathdearn and Strathearn.) This word is probably also the origin of the name Eire for Ireland ; and not Iarinn, as generally supposed.” (a) In the Green at Glasgow there is a celebrated well or spring, popularly known to the inhabitants as Eirn’s, or Airn’s Well, which, no doubt, has reference to the same mythical deity. Is it too much to suppose that Ire in Irewell, or Irwell, is from the like source ?

But again, in the charter of Roger de Lacy, in which the first mention of the river occurs, the name is not spelt Irwell or Irewell, but *Irewill*. In the Celtic language, Uillt, pronounced *will*, or *wilt* (the *t* at the end of the word having the liquefied sound of *tia* in Christian), is a mountain stream—a brook—a river. The conclusion, then, to which we are naturally led is—First, that we are not necessarily indebted to its source for the name of the river. It is by no means essential that we should trace a stream to its rise in order to arrive at the origin of its name. Secondly, that the prefix Ir, or Ire, has reference to the ancient British deity of that name. Thirdly, that *will* (Uillt), is the Celtic word for stream. It

(a) Celtic Gleanings, by the Rev. T. M’Laughlin, A.M., F.S.A.S., p. 130.

therefore requires no violent effort of the imagination to believe that the river which takes its rise on Derpley Hill was dedicated to and designated after the British Deity Eire, or Ire—that it was known as *Ire will*, the stream of the god—and that the name has survived to the present time.

The Irwell, it should be noted, has really two sources or springs, separated by a few hundred yards, on Derpley Moor, down which the rivulets flow, uniting near to the present boundary of Bacup Booth. Its five principal tributaries within the confines of Rossendale are (1). Tong Brook, which rises in the moors of Tooter Hill and Sharneyford, flows down Greave Clough, and joins the Irwell at Bacup Fold. (2). Coupe Brook, rising in the Brandwood Moors and falling into the main stream at Waterfoot. (3). The river Whitewell, having its source on the hill slope overlooking the Cliviger Valley, and not far distant from the spring of the Irwell. It flows down the Lumb and Whitewell valleys, and falls into the Irwell also at Waterfoot. (4). The Limy Water, which rises in the moors above Dunnockshaw, and, traversing the Crawshawbooth valley, joins the Irwell at Rawtenstall. (5). Balladen Brook, which forms the boundary of Rossendale to the South West; this, coming down from the adjacent heights, falls into the Irwell near to Townsend Fold.

Reference has already been made to the legend that Tunstead bottoms at one time formed a deep lake, the only outlet for its waters being a narrow gorge through the rocks at what is now called Glen Top. In proof of this, the late H. Cunliffe vouches for the statement that when the present turnpike road was cut from Stacksteads to Rawtenstall in the year 1826, numerous remains of stags and other forest animals were dug out of the ground above the Thrutch, as though they had been washed down the river, and had settled in the still waters of the lake.

If Cliviger can claim the high honour of giving birth to the Irwell, so Rossendale is surely foster-parent to the nursling; and who shall compass the honour of being the parent and nurse of that stream, which, while yet a mere stripling, has performed more



work than a hundred rivers of greater pretensions—and which, ere it has discharged its vexed and darkened waters into the Mersey, has accomplished labours only paralleled by those recorded in fable of the mighty Hercules of old ! Fitting emblem of true greatness, it springs from its parent bed on the bleak hillside ; no enchanting scenery distinguishes the place of its rise ; it is the sole fruitful offspring of a sterile and uninviting tract of country. Neither throughout its whole course does it meander through delicious wildernesses of rural beauty, fringed by overhanging foliage, or embroidered with wide-reaching acres of velvet-lawn. Far other scenes the bounteous river affects : the abodes of men, the forests of piled stones where Labour lives and thrives, and where the incense of Vulcan's fires continually ascends ; where the busy hammer is heard to reverberate ; where the endless whirl of the spindle and the unceasing tumult of the loom, with all their generous produce, bring gladness to the pale mechanic's hearth, and light up with cheerful glow the humble fireside of the thrifty operative. Having more of the useful than the ornamental in its composition, the Irwell is a noble work-a-day river, with smutty face, winning the children's bread.

Michael Drayton, in his *Poly-Olbion* published in 1622, reciting a contest that took place between the Irwell and the Ribble as to "which of those floods deserved to have their sovereign due" of "the neat Lancastrian Nymphs for beauty that excel," makes the "lovely Erwell" say :—

"Note,

" As from my fountain I tow'rds mightier Mersey float,
" First Roach, a dainty rill, from Rochdale, her dear dam,
" Who, honoured with the half of her stern mother's name,
" Grows proud ; yet, glad herself into my banks to get,
" Which Spodden from her spring, a pretty rivulet,
" As her attendants brings, when Irck adds to my store,
" And Medlock to their much by lending somewhat more,
" At Manchester do meet, all kneeling to my state,
" Where brave I show myself. Then with a prouder gait,
" Tow'rds Mersey making' on, Great Chatmosse at my fall,
" Piles full of turf, and marle, her unctuous mineral,

" And blocks as black as pitch (with boring augurs found),
 " There at the general flood supposed to be drowned.
 " Thus chief of Mersey's train, away with her I run,
 " When in her prosperous course she wat'reth Warrington,
 " And her fair silver load in Le'rpoole down doth lay.
 " A road none more renown'd in the Vergivian sea.
 " Ye lusty lasses, then, in Lancashire that dwell,
 " For beauty that are said to bear away the bell.
 " Your country's hornpipe ye so mincingly that tread,
 " As ye the egg-pye love, and apple cheery red,
 " In all your mirthful songs and merry meetings tell
 " That Erwell every way doth Ribble far excel."

A transformation in the charms of the river has taken place since the poet sang the praises of the "lovely Erwell;" and whatever the circumstances may have been in the past, the man, to-day, would be a false witness who declared "That Erwell every way doth Ribble far excel."

There is an interesting reference to Rossendale as the district in which the river Irwell takes its rise, in a poem entitled "Irwell," (*b*) possessing some merit. After a short introduction it proceeds:—

But not so high my fancy soars,
 Content to roam on Irwell's shores,
 Its fleeting relics seek among,
 Fit subjects for my simple song;
 Nor would my muse to this aspire,
 But thoughts of early days inspire
 My pen to move unfettered, free,
 IRWELL, in love alone to thee!
 Black as thou art, thou sullen stream,
 Thee have I chosen for my theme;
 For there are spots which skirt thy tide
 Full many a favoured land might pride,
 Where speed thy waters in their youth,
 As childhood bright, and pure as truth,
 So very fair, I've seen on thee
 The shadowed form of passing bee.

(*b*) Irwell and other Poems by A. (Joseph Anthony), Dedicated to Charles Swain, 1843.

Rich is the spot, in nature's worth,
Sweet ROSSENDALE, that gives thee birth;
Whoe'er from thence thy charms may trace,
Till charms are lost in Art's embrace—
Shall (having seen thy murky gloom)
See beauty's birth and beauty's tomb.

And so the poem goes on to narrate a legend of Old Kersal Hall.

The beginning of the pollution of the Irwell is by no means of recent date, as appears by the following lines from "Knaster," a humorous poem written by John Ferriar, M.D. of Manchester, (c) a century ago, where, referring to one of his literary townsmen, he says,—

Deep in a den, conceal'd from Phœbus' beams,
Where neighb'ring Irwell leads his sable streams,
Where misty dye-rooms fragrant scents bestow,
And fires more fierce than love for ever glow.

The scurvy way in which the Irwell has been treated all these years is enough to make it dry up its waters and retire to cavernous depths. Vex not the spirit of the stream! Why not a spirit in the waters as well as in these dull clods of mortal bodies of ours? There *is* a spirit! We can hear it speak, and it looks out at us with a thousand appealing eyes!

(c) Palatine Note Book, Vol. II., p. 69.



BOOK SECOND.



CHAPTER I.

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh : but the earth abideth for ever."—ECCLES. i. 4.

WE have now reached that point when it becomes necessary to trace the connexion of the present lord of the manor with the district. History and existing records are sufficiently full and explicit on this head ; and we shall experience no difficulty in tracing the ownership from the time of the Conqueror down to the present day. In order to do this clearly and satisfactorily, we must view Rossendale as constituting a portion of the Hundred of Blackburn, or Honor of Clitheroe, (a) parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Previous to and at the time of the Norman Conquest, (A.D. 1066,) the four forests of Pendle, Trawden, Rossendale, and Accrington were embraced in the general name of the "Forest of Blackburnshire ;" and though the different subdivisions were probably well known by their distinctive appellations, yet we may form a fair estimate of the limited extent of occupation and cultivation

(a) "The term Honor implied superiority over several dependent manors, whose proprietors were obliged to do suit and service to their superior baron or chief, who kept his Honor Court annually with great pomp, all the inferior landholders standing bareheaded in his presence, while he sat in a chair of state."—CORY, *Hist. of Lancashire*, vol. i. p. 151.

throughout this portion of the county of Lancaster in those remote times, from a consideration of the significant and interesting fact that the broad and far-extending woodlands, so branched or dove-tailed one into the other, as to justify the title which included them all in one vast, wide-reaching forest. The area of the whole was about $76\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, or 48,945 statute acres; the superficial extent of Rossendale—which is the largest of the four—being about $30\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, or 19,505 statute acres.

The forests at that time were not comprised within the limits of any township or other subdivision of property or estate, and being without paramount owner, were naturally claimed by the great Norman barons or other dignitaries, the favourites and followers of the Conqueror, who would readily endorse their title thereto in consideration of fealty and distinguished services. Neither in the latter years of William's reign, at the time of the Domesday survey, were they embraced within the measurement of the Hundred of Blackburn, as given in that authentic and valuable record.

“William brought in his train a large body of military adventurers, and the Roll of Battle Abbey, given by Ralph Holinshed, contains the names of six hundred and twenty-nine Normans, who all became claimants upon the fair territory of Britain. To satisfy the cravings of this rapacious host was a task of some difficulty; but the new monarch did not hesitate to seize the possessions of the Anglo-Saxon proprietors in every direction, and to confer them with no parsimonious hand, upon his companions in arms.” (b)

The vast possessions which included the Honors of Lancaster and Clitheroe were given to Roger de Poitou, *alias* Roger Pictavensis, the third son of Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury. This Roger de Poitou, then, was the first Lord of the Honor of which the Forest of Rossendale forms a not unimportant part. He was the founder of the Castles of Lancaster and Liverpool. Owing, however, to his taking part in certain rebellions, his inheritance was forfeited. The Honor of Lancaster

(b) Baines.

was given to Stephen, who became king of England. From this monarch it passed to a series of noble and royal owners in succession—William de Blois, Earl of Montaign and Bollogne; King John, of Magna Charta fame; Ranulph, fourth earl of Chester; William, Earl of Ferrers. Henry III., son of King John, gave the Honor to his youngest son, Edmund Crouchback, and conferred upon him the title of Earl of Lancaster. Thomas Plantagenet, the next earl, afterwards became the possessor, and to him we shall again immediately refer.

The house of Lacy (the first of which family in this country, Ilbert de Lacy, came over from Normandy with the Conqueror) became possessors of the Hundred of Blackburn, or Honor of Clitheroe, either by direct gift from William the Norman, or through Roger de Busli and Albert Greslet, to whom the original Baron, Roger de Poictou, had granted the Hundred. There is some obscurity about the transfer, the best authorities differing on the subject. The following is a translation of the account which is given of the Hundred in "Domesday Book :"—

" IN BLACHEBURNE HUNDRET

" King Edward held Blacheburne.

" There are two hides (c) and two carucates (d) of land. The Church had two bovates (e) of this land; and the Church of St. Mary's had in *Whalley* two carucates of land, free from all custom. In the same manor there is a wood, one mile in length and the same in width, and there was an aerie of hawks.

" To this manor belonged twenty-eight freemen, holding five hides and a half and forty carucates of land for twenty-eight manors. There is a wood six miles long and four broad, and there were the above-said customs.

(c) Hide or oxgang of land, as much land as can reasonably be ploughed in a year by one yoke of oxen, the yoke consisting of two beasts.

(d) Carucate of land, from caruca, a plough, as much land as can reasonably be cultivated in a year by one plough.

(e) Bovate of land, as much land as can reasonably be ploughed by one ox in a year.

There is some uncertainty about these several quantities, the bovat according to different authorities, ranging from 13 to 18 acres.

"In the same hundred *King Edward* had *Hunnicot* (Huncote), with two carucates of land; *Waletune* (Walton), with two carucates of land; *Peniltune* (Pendleton), half a hide. The whole manor and hundred paid to the king for rent thirty-two pounds two shillings.

"The whole of the hundred was given by *Rogerus Pictavenis* to *Rogero de Busli* and *Alberto Greslet*, and there are as many men who have eleven carucates and a half; they allowed these to be exempt for three years, and therefore they are not rated."

As Lords of the Hundred of Blackburn, or Honor of Clitheroe, the house of Lacy exercised power and authority through a series of generations, its members being more or less distinguished, till the marriage of Alice de Lacy to Thomas, the Earl of Lancaster, already mentioned.

This event united the two powerful families of the county, the rich and vast possessions of which, from that time forth, all centred in the house of Lancaster. This unfortunate earl was beheaded for joining the insurrection of the barons against the De Spencers, and his estates and title devolved to his brother Henry.

Among the records preserved in the Treasury of the Court of Exchequer, on a roll endorsed "*Pleas of the Crown, &c., county of Lancaster, in the 17th year of King Edward III.,*"—it is stated that, after the death of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster (beheaded), his wife Alice surrendered into the hands of King Edward II. all the Forest of Rossendale, with the appurtenances, at whose death it descended to his son, King Edward III., who granted the same Forest, with its appurtenances, to Isabella, Queen of England, his mother, to hold for the whole of her natural life—and that during the time of her possession she confirmed a grant of the office of forester to Richard de Radeclive.

The ownership of the Forest is not pursued further in the roll in question; but at the death of Isabella, the possession returned to the Earl of Lancaster, agreeably to the Act obtained by Henry, Earl of Lancaster, in the first year of Edward III., for reversing the attainder of his brother Thomas, whose vast possessions had been forfeited on account of his share in the rebellion.

Henry (the brother of Thomas), at his death left an only son, Henry, on whom was conferred the title of Duke of Lancaster by King Edward III. Henry left two daughters, Maude and Blanche, the latter of whom was married to the great John of Gaunt, the fourth son of Edward III., by the title of "John, son of the King of England; Duke of Aquitaine and Lancaster; Earl of Derby, Lincoln and Leicester; and Seneschal (High Steward) of England." At the death of John of Gaunt, his eldest son, Henry of Bolingbroke, became Duke of Lancaster, and he afterwards ascended the throne of England as Henry IV. A line of sovereigns thenceforth possessed the Honor of Clitheroe, till King Charles II., at his restoration, bestowed it upon General Monk, Duke of Albemarle, for distinguished services rendered to the Crown. His son, Christopher, who became possessed of the estates, died without leaving issue, having bequeathed the possession to his wife, the daughter and co-heiress of Henry Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. For her second husband she married Ralph, Duke of Montague, whose heir, by a previous marriage, John, Duke of Montague, became the owner of the property, leaving at his decease two daughters, Isabella and Mary, the latter of whom was married to George Brudenel, afterwards Duke of Montague, whose daughter, Elizabeth, in 1767 married Henry, Duke of Buccleuch, who thus became the possessor of the estates, as lord of the Honor which includes the Forest of Rossendale, and in whose family the freehold still remains.



CHAPTER II.

"The Abbot he was a holy man,
And eke he was an able;
He ruled with gentlest master han'
The monks that graced his table.
But woe betide th' unlucky wight
That dared bereave him of his right!"

"I will carpe of kings that conquered full wide,
That dwelled in this land . . .
Henry the Seventh, that sovereign lord."

IN the earlier stages of our enquiry we have been, as it were, groping along in the mists of antiquity, with but few rays of light to guide our path; and with scarce a finger-post to direct us on our way. But, leaving in our wake the times of the Ancient Briton, the Roman, the Saxon, and the Dane, and reaching far into the rule of later days, we draw near to a period in the history of the district possessing more substantial records, over which we can pace with firmer tread; we begin to detect the sound of footsteps, and we descry in the hazy distance, "men as trees walking."

The association of the Forest of Rossendale, in those early days, with Whalley Abbey and the Monastery of Stanlaw in Cheshire—the prior abode of the Cistercian monks—was so intimate as to call for some notice of these by way of elucidation of the history of the district.

Before the erection of the religious edifice at Whalley, the mouldering ruins of which add an additional charm to that romantic and delightful locality, the abbot and his inferiors the monks occupied the Cistercian Monastery of Stanlaw. This

abbey was founded by John, sixth Baron of Halton, and Constable of Chester, in the year 1178, being the 24th of Henry II., on the eve of his departure for the Holy Land, where he died in the year 1190. "The site was singularly inauspicious, and probably owed its selection to the austere and mortified views of the founder on the approach of his meditated crusade. In 1279, according to the Chronicle of St. Werburgh, the sea (or Mersey) broke in upon the house and did the Religious incredible injury. In 1287 the great tower of their church fell in a violent storm, and in 1289 the greater part of the Abbey perished in a conflagration, and the sea again inundated their lands. On a representation of their accumulated calamities to Pope Nicholas the Fourth, the Abbot and Convent obtained permission to remove to Whalley in Lancashire, where their munificent patron, Henry de Lacy, had given them a new and more fertile site. This auspicious event took place in the year 1296, and Stanlaw continued to be a cell to the Abbey of Whalley (as it had formerly been reputed a filial dependency of Combermere) until the suppression of that house, when it was granted to Sir Richard Cotton, whose son sold it, anno 13th Elizabeth, to Sir John Poole, of Poole, in whose descendant it is now vested." (a)

About the year 1200, during the reign of King John, Roger de Lacy, one of the lords of the Honor of Clitheroe, granted to the monastery, along with other valuable donations, that portion of Rossendale known as Brandwood; (b) and, as a result of this gift, the district so named, by being cleared and cultivated, was the first part of the Forest which was rendered suitable for the habitation of man.

The following is a copy of the deed granting the land in question, with other important and interesting documents having a local bearing. It is given in the "Coucher Book" of Whalley Abbey, leaf 82, the following being a translation:—

ex Chron. Buxton. Notitia Cestriensis, vol. i. pp. 82-3 (1845.)

& Brandwood: brand, burnt. Brentwood, firewood from the forest.

(c) "The deed of Roger of Chester of 4 Bovates (d) of Land in Rachdale and of Brendewod.

"Know all men, as well present as future, that I Roger de Lacy, Constable of Chester, having given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to God and the Blessed Mary, and to my Abbot and Monks of the Blessed place of Stanlawe, 4 Oxgangs of Land in Rachdale, in the Township which is called Castleton, with all their appurtenances, with common of the whole Township of Rachdale, free and discharged from all service, exaction, and custom, belonging to me or my Heirs for ever. Also,

(c) The original is as follows:—

"Carta Rogeri Constabularij de quatuor bouatis terre in Rachedale et de Brendewod.

"Sciunt omnes tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Rogerus de Lascy, constab. Cestrie, dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmani Deo et beate Marie et Abbati et monachis meis Loci Benedicti de Stanlawe quatuor bouatas terre in Rach. in villa que dicitur Castellana cum omnib3 Ptinentijs suis, scil. cum communione totius ville de Rach., liberas et quietas ab omni seruicio, exactione et consuetudine ad me vel ad heredes meos ptinente impetuum. Dedi etiam eis in foresta mea pasturam illam que dicitur Brendewod ad eorum animalia pascenda p diuisas subnotatas, scil. do Gorsichelache usq. Cuhopheued, et sic sicut Cuhope descendit in Irewil, et sic Irewil usq. ffulebachope, deinde ascendendo usq. Saltergat, sic usq. Hamstalesclogh, et sic usq. Denesgreue, et sic p transitum muse usq. Cumbehop ad Gorsichelache. Habebunt autem predicti monachi in pastura illa centum vaccas cum excitu duorum annorum. Et si animalia ibi habuero, eorum animalia pascent et ibunt in latum et in longum ubicunq. mea pascunt et vadunt. Et phibeo ne quis balliuorum et seruientium meorum predictis monachis vel eorum hominib3 molestiam vel grauamen inferat, vel injuriando eorum animalia iniuste fatiget. Ego autem et heredes mei hanc donationem predictis monachis meis contra omnes homines fideliter warrantizabimus. Hijs testib3, dno Turgisio Abbate de Kyrkestall, Ric. de Cestria, Eust. de Cestria, fratrib3 meis, Rob. Wallensi, Willo de Lunguillers, Hug. Dispenser, Thomas Dispenser, Hug. de Dutton, Adam de Dutton, Galfr. fratre eorum, Hendone de Lunguillers, Henr. Wallensi, Galfr. Pincerna, Magistro Waltero medico, Roberto Clerico, Henr. Probo, et multis alijs."

(d) For an explanation of the terms "bovate" and "oxgang" of land, see Ante, Chap. I, Book Second.

I have given to them in my Forest, that Pasture which is called Brendewod, to feed their Animals by the divisions undermentioned, to wit, from Gorischelache to Cuhopheved, and so as the Cuhope descends to the Irewill, and so Irewill to Fulbachope, (e) then going up to Saltergate, then to Hamstalesclogh, and so on to the Denesgreve, and so by the Top of the Moss to Cupehep to Gorischelache. Also the aforesaid Monks shall have in that pasture 100 Cows, with the Offspring of 2 years. And if I shall have Cattle there, their Cattle shall feed and go far and wide wheresoever mine feed and go. And I forbid any of my Bailiffs, or Servants, to offer to my said Monks, or their men, any trouble or grievance, or by injuring their Animals, to unjustly distress them. And I and my Heirs will faithfully warrant this gift to my aforesaid Monks against all men. To these being Witnesses. Lord Turgesius Abbot of Kyrkestall, Richard de Chester, Eustace de Chester, My Brothers, Robert Wallensis, William de Longvillers, Hugh de Spencer, Thomas de Spencer, Hugh de Dutton, Adam de Dutton, Jeoffrey their Brother, Hendon de Longvillers, Henry Wallens, Jeoffrey Pincerna, Master Walter the Physician, Robert the Clerk, Henry the Yeoman, and many others."

A grant or gift was also made to the same Abbey by John de Lacy the son of Roger, of the right to cut Hay in his Forest of Rossendale, viz:

"Carta Iohannis de Lascy de licentia falcandi in Rossendale.

"Iohannes de Lascy, constab. Cestrie, omnibz forestarijs et balliuis suis salutem. Sciatis me dedisse licentiam Abbati et monachis meis Loci Benedicti de Stanl. falcandi fenum in foresta mea de Rossendale, sicut antea solebant, ad sustentand. in hyeme aueria sua que illic habent. Hijs testibz, Gilberto de Notton tunc senescallo, Henr. de Nouo campo, Henr. de Tieys, magistro Rogero, et multis alijs."

(e) Fulbachope: no doubt intended to mean Bacup-foot. In the Greaves' accounts for the year 1799, George Haworth is stated to be Greave of the Forest for the inhabitants of Bankside within Backup-foot in Rossendale. This expression seems to favour the derivation of the name Bacup as suggested in Chap. I. Baycop foot, the foot of the bay cop or red-hill.

Among the records of the Court of Chancery preserved in the Tower of London, and in the Patent Roll of the 2d year of the Reign of King Edward the Third (1328), p. 1. M. 24, is contained a confirmation of the foregoing Grants, as follows :—

“ For the Abbot and Monks of Whalley.

“ The King to all whom it may concern, Greeting. [Here is given a detailed enumeration of the many Gifts and Grants made to the Abbot and Monks when in their Abbey, at Stanlaw in Cheshire, and afterwards when they had removed to their new abode at Whalley, and it proceeds :]—The gift, also grant and confirmation, which Roger de Lacy, formerly Constable of Chester, made by his deed, to the said Abbot and Monks, of Four Oxfangs (f) of Land with the Appurtenances in Rochdale, and of the pasture which is called Brøndwood in the Forest of the said Roger. . . . The gift also which John de Lacy, formerly Constable of Chester, made by his deed to the said Abbot and Monks, of cutting Hay in his Forest of Rossendale . . . Grant and Confirm those things for ourselves, and our heirs, as much as in us lies, to the aforesaid Abbot and Monks now residing at Whalley and their Successors. In witness, &c., the King at York.”

Among the Records preserved in the Treasury of the Court of Receipt of Exchequer, on a Roll endorsed “Pleas of the Crown and of Trespasses before the Justices in Eyre, in the County of Lancaster, in the 17th year of King Edward III.,” (1343) is an Account of a suit between the Abbot and Convent of Whalley and Richard de Ratcliffe, Master Forester, for puture of the foresters ; in which, strangely enough, the Forest of Rossendale is spoken of as being included within that of Pendle ; and which affords some glimpses of the condition of a portion of the district in the earlier periods of its history. In ancient Law, the term Puture (Putura) had reference to the custom, or privilege, which the Foresters had of claiming meat and drink, gratis, for themselves, their horses and dogs, from the tenants within the bounds of a forest. The document is one of considerable length, but I shall extract only those portions which relate immediately to the district under consideration.

(f) For an explanation of the term an “oxgang of land,” see Ante, Chap. I., Book Second.

" Lancashire to wit,

" Richard de Radeclive [Radcliffe], Master Forester of the Forest of Penhull, [Pendle], in the Wapentake of Blakeburnshire, was attached to answer the Abbot of Whalley of a Plea, wherefore while the said Abbot holds the Manor of Bryndewode, in Rossendale, in free pure and perpetual Alms, as belonging to the said Abbot's Church, of St. Mary of Whalley, without any services or other charges therefore payable, or to be done to any one, except only prayers and orisons for the souls of its founders and feoffers, the said Richard by color of his aforesaid office, in divers manners charged the said Manor, by claiming there, certain puture for himself and his four foresters, and for his horse, and one boy, to wit, for each Thursday night, and for each Friday during the whole year, to wit, victuals, as well meat as drink, at the costs of the said Abbot's aforesaid Manor, unduly and by oppression against the will of the said Abbot, and against the law and statute in such case provided, to the disinherittance of the said Abbot's Church of the blessed Mary of Whalley. And in that way the said Richard continued the aforesaid oppression, and took the aforesaid puture unjustly, and by extortion, to wit, on every Friday, and on the night preceding the same day, as is aforesaid, from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, in the sixteenth year of the reign of the Lord the now King of England, to the day of the delivery of this Bill, to wit, until Friday, on the morrow of the feast of Corpus Christi, in the 17th year of the reign of the said Lord the now King, to the grievous damage of the said Abbot, of one hundred marks and wherefore he brings suit," &c.

On the behalf of Richard de Radeclive, the Master Forester, it was contended that one Henry de Lacy, formerly Earl of Lincoln, and his ancestors were seised of the Forest of Penhull [Pendle] and Rossendale, and had therein their Master Foresters and other under Foresters, who were seised of the puture as belonging to their office. That on the death of Henry, the Forest descended to Alicia his daughter, who married Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and that the latter granted and demised the office of Forester, together with the puture, to one Richard Mereclesdene, [Marsden,] for the whole of his life. But that during the reign of his then present majesty Edward III., this Richard Mereclesdene had granted his Estate in the office of the Forestship, and in the puture, to the said Richard de Radeclive; whose right to the office was afterwards ratified and confirmed by Isabella, the Dowager Queen, to whom by her son King Edward III., the Forest had been

granted for the whole of her life. So that he took the puture for himself, and his under-foresters, as belonging to his office, justly, and as to him was lawful.

For the Abbot it was argued, that one Roger de Lacy, former Constable of Chester, was seised of the Forest, with its appurtenances, and of a certain piece of waste called Brendewode where the puture was claimed, which was parcel of the same Forest; and that in the time of King John, the place of Brendewode was a waste, having no manor-house nor any habitation. That this Roger granted this piece of waste with other tenements, to God and the Blessed Mary, and to the Abbot of Stanlaw, in Cheshire, from which place, by the grant of the founders, and license of the Bishop, on account of the inundation of the Sea, the Abbey was transferred to Whalley; in proof of which gift the original deed of Roger de Lacy, and the charter of 2nd Edward III. confirming the same, were recited. It was further urged, that the Abbot in the time of King Henry III., first constructed and built a manor-house in the waste of Brendewode, where the puture was claimed, and that the Manor was held in free pure and perpetual alms freed from all charge, excepting only prayers and orisons for the souls of the founders and feoffers, and their ancestors and heirs. But, moreover, it was contended, that even the original Grantor, Roger de Lacy, could have had no such puture as was now claimed; because when the original grant was made the place was altogether waste, neither was there built upon it a manor-house or any house whatsoever, and where houses and inhabitants were wanting, it follows that puture there could be none; so that even the title of Roger might be annulled by plea in Law. At intervals, from courtesy, and of their free will, the Abbot and his predecessors had fed the Foresters; but this, it was urged, was no justification of the claim for puture.

It was therefore commanded to the Sheriff that he summon twelve jurors, who by consent of the parties to the suit, being elected and sworn, found upon their oath that in the time of King John the place of Brendewode was waste, not built upon, nor

cultivated, and was part of the Forest of Penhull, (f) which place of Brendewode, Roger de Lacy gave to the Abbot of Stanlaw, predecessor of the Abbot of Whalley, and to his Church; by which gift the said Abbot and all his successors were seised as in right of their Church. Also, that John, son of Roger, Edmund and Henry, by deeds, granted and confirmed the gift to be held in free and perpetual alms. They further found that in the time of King Henry III., one Abbot who then was, first constructed and built houses in the said waste, and brought into cultivation a great part of the land which was called the Manor of Brendewode; at which time, one Henry de Lacy, who was Lord of the Forest, and had his Foresters there, went in obedience to King Henry III., into Scotland, and before his departure requested the Abbot who then was, and other neighbours of the County, in his absence to succour and help his Foresters. Wherefore the Abbot from courtesy and free will, fed the Foresters at intervals, when he pleased; and in the same manner other Abbots, his successors, did the like by their own free will. In conclusion the Jurors said that neither Richard nor any other Forester, never of right, or by any just title were seised of the puture as belonging to their office, but that Richard de Radeclive, by extortion and oppression, under colour of his office, took the puture against the will of the Abbot to the damage of £4. The Abbot therefore recovered his damages, and Richard was committed to Gaol.

Just eight years after the conclusion of the trial above recounted, Henry, first Duke of Lancaster, (son of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, in whose favour the attainder of his unfortunate brother Thomas had been reversed, on the plea that he had not been tried by his peers,) as Lord of the Honor and Hundred, by Deed confirmed and ratified the grants of previous lords, of Brandwood and other lands, to the Abbeyes of Stanlaw and Whalley, and not only commuted them from all claim on account of puture for the time to come, but also relinquished that which had been reserved

(f) Evidently an error of description.

to himself and his heirs—the right of pasturing cattle on the lands in question.

In the “Coucher Book” of Whalley Abbey, leaf 409, is contained the Deed, of which the following is a translation :—

“THE DEED OF THE LORD HENRY OF THE PASTURE OF
BREDEWODE, &c. (g)

“To all whom this present writing indented shall come, Henry, Earl of Lancaster, Derby, Leicester, and Lincoln, Steward of England, Greeting.

“Know ye that whereas the Lord, Roger de Lacy, Constable of Chester of good memory, and our predecessor of the Lordship of Blackburnshire and of Rachedal, formerly had given and granted by his Deed, which we have seen, among other things, to God and the Blessed Mary, and to the Abbot and Monks of the Benedictine place of Stanlawe, the Predecessors of the Abbot and Convent of Whalley, that Pasture which is called Brendewode, in his Forest, by the divisions undermentioned, to wit, from Gorsichelache to

(g) The original Deed is as follows,—

“Carta domini Henrici comitis Lancastrie depastura de Brendewod et de vastis approuyatis in Blakeburn.

“Omnibus ad quos presens scriptum indentatum puenerit Henr. comes Lancastrie, Derbe, Leycestr, et Lyncoln, senescallus Anglie, salutem. Noueritis quod cum bone memorie dnus Rogerus de Lasey constabularis Cestrie et predecesor noster dnij de Blakeburnschir et de Rachedale dudum inter cetera dedisset et concessisset per cartam suam, quam inspeximus, Deo et beate Marie et Abbati et monachis Loci Benedicti de Stanlawe predecessoribz Abbatis et conuentus de Whalleye pasturam illam que dicitur Brendewode in foresta sua per diuisas subnotatas videlicet de Gorsichelache usque Couhopeheued et sic sicut riulus de Couhope descendit usque in aquam de Irewell, et sic ascendendo aquam de Irwell usque ad Saltergate, et sic per Saltergate usque in Hamstaleclogh, et dehinc usque ad Denes greue, et dehinc sequendo transitum musse per Coumbehore usque ad primum locum de Gorsichelache, liberam et quietam ab omni seculari seruicio consuetudine et exaotione. Nos Henricus comes predictus donationem et concessionem supradictas ex certa scientia et de gratia nostra speciali appbamus ratificamus et quantum in nobis est confirmamus. Volentes insuper ob donationem quam habemus ad .Dei Genetricem virginem gloriosam, et effectiorem specialem quam habemus ad personam fratris Johannis de Lyndelay, Abbatis dicte domus de Whalleye sacre pagine pfessoris, eisdem Abbati et conuentui ac eorum successoribz gratiam ubiorem facere in hac parte, remisimes relaxauimus et omnino de nobis et heredibz nostris

Cuhopeved, and so as the Cuhope descends to the Irewell, and so Irewell to Fulbachope, then going up to Saltergate, then to Hamstalesclogh, and so to the Denesgreve, and so by the Top of the Moss to Cupehep to Gorischelache. We, Henry, the aforesaid Earl, of our certain knowledge, and of our special favour, approve, ratify, and as much as in us lies, confirm the aforesaid gift and grant. We willing, moreover, on account of the devotion which we have to the Mother of God, the glorious virgin, and the special affection which we bear to the Person of Brother John de Lindelaye, Abbot of the said House of Whalley, Doctor of Divinity, to do so to the said Abbot and Convent and their successors the greater favour in this behalf, have remised, released, and altogether have quit claimed for us, and our heirs, to the said Abbot and Convent of Whalley, and their successors, for ever, all the right and claim which can belong to us or our heirs, by any title whatsoever, within the pasture aforesaid; so that, henceforth, the said Abbot and Convent may have and hold the said pasture in severality, exonerated, freed and discharged, as well from Puture of the Foresters of us and our heirs, as from agistments (*h*) or any putting of Cattle on the Pasture aforesaid, by us or our heirs, or the

quietuclamaumus prefatis Abbati et conuentui de Whalleye suisque successoribz imppetuum totum ius et clameum quod ad nos vel heredes nostros quocunque titulo ptinere poterit in pastura predicta. Ita quod de cetero predicti Abbas et conuentus ac eorum successores habeant et teneant dictam partem in sepali, epoueratam liberam et solutam tam a putura forestariorum nostrorum et heredum nostrorum quam ab agistamentis seu quacunque supinductione animalium quorumlibet in pastura illa p nos vel heredes et ministros nostros ad heredum nostrorum faciend, atque ab alijs quibzcunque seruicijs exactionibz et demandis. Liceatque dictis Abbati et conventui ac eorum successoribz prefatam pasturam includere ipsamque redigere in culturam seu aliud quodcunque pficium suum inde facere p sua libera voluntate sine contradictione vel impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum. Saluis nobis et heredibz nostris in pastura predicta saluagio nostro seu venatione nostra absque dampnificatione vel molestatione dictorum Abbatis et conuentes et successorum atque seruientium suorum, &c. Hijs testibz dno Henr. de Walton archid, Richemundie, Hugone de Berwyk senescalco nostro, Henr. de Trafford, Adam de Hoghton, Nicholao de Boteler, Willmo de Clifton, militibz, Ric. de Radeclif, Willmo Lawrentz, Joh. de Aluetham, et alijs. Dat. apud manerium nostrum de Sauuoye iuxta Londinum xx^o die febr. anno regni Regis Edw. tertij a conquesta Anglie xxv^o, regni vero sui ffrancie xij^o."

(*h*) Grass, or, as the term is sometimes used to mean, the right of pasturing cattle in the forest.

servants of us or our heirs; and from all other services, exactions, and demands whatsoever. And that it may be lawful for the said Abbot and Convent, and their successors, to enclose the said Pasture and to reduce it to cultivation, or to make any other profit thereof, at their free will, without contradiction or impediment of us or our heirs, saving to us and our heirs in the aforesaid Pasture our right to hunt without injury or troubling the said Abbot and Convent of Whalley or their successors and servants, &c. To these being witnesses, Master Henry de Walton, Archdeacon of Richmond; Hugh de Berewick, our Steward; Henry de Trafford; Adam de Houghton; Nicholas le Botiller; William de Clifton; Knight Richard de Ratcliffe, William Lawrentz, John de Aluetham, and others.—Given at our Manor House of the Savoy, near London, the twentieth day of February, in the twenty-fifth year (1349) of the reign of King Edward III. from the conquest of England, but of his Reign of France the twelfth."

In the Patent Rolls, 20th Edward III. (1346 Sept. 15) it is stated that John de Radecluf, Robt. Gilstones, Robt. de Henclif, forester, Robert de Catlowe, forester, Alan, son of Adam Greyeieson of Staytburn, and others were purturbators of the Abbot of Whalley, at Castleton, Blakebourn, and Brendwood in Rossendale.

In the Rolls of the Duchy of Lancaster, during the time of the same Duke Henry aforementioned, in the reign of King Edward III., being the period of the first ducal administration, the following references to Rossendale occur:—

A Grant of a Lease of the Herbage of Musbury Park.

In the 10th year of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, there was an Appointment of Justices to try Malefactors for Trespasses in the Chases of Bowland, Penhull, Trowden, Rochdale, *Rossendale*, and Romesgrene. After the death of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, which occurred March 24th, 1361, an Inquisition was made by Commission of King Edward III., before Henry de Haydok and John Cockayn, of all the Lands and Tenements of which the Duke was seised on the day that he died.

This document is preserved amongst the records of the Court of Chancery, and, along with other particulars, it is therein stated, that the Chase of Penhull, [Pendle,] for herbage beyond the feeding the Beasts of Chase, is worth by the year £20 13s. 4d. That the Chase of Trogden, [Trawden,] together with herbage and

other profits, is worth by the year 104s. That the Chase of Rossendale, with Accrington, for herbage and other profits beyond the feeding of Beasts of Chase, is worth by the year £20, 2s. The Manor of Tottington, £29, 15s. 1¼d.; and the Chase and Park there, £6, 5s. Also the herbage of the Wood at Hoddesden, £1, 9s. 6d.

In the Register of John of Gaunt, under date 45th Edward III. (1372,) June 14th, Savoy, is a "Warrant to Richard de Radclif, our chief forester in Blakebournshire, to deliver to Robert Dyngley, Esquire, two harts of grease, in the *Chace of Rossendale*, and two does in the Chace of Penhull."

Two years later, in the same Rolls, under date "Hegham Ferrers, July 20th, T. Banastre" appointed forester of our Chaces of Penhill, Trowedon, and *Rossyndal*." This Tho. Banastre, as appears by the same Records, was drowned at sea ("commanded to God by tempest in the sea") in the month of December, 1379, (3rd Richard II.)

In the Calender of Rolls of the Chancery of the County Palatine of Lancashire, there is a precept dated the 12th year of Henry IV. (1411), addressed to the Sheriff of Lancashire, requiring him to cause public proclamation to be made at the next ensuing Sessions to be held at Lancaster, against hunting and killing deer in the King's Forests of Bowland, Penhil, *Rossyndale*, and Trauden.

The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey contains a quittance or release (*h*) for the tithes, amounting to £11 13s. 4d., of the grass land and pasturage for cattle in the closes (enclosures)

(*h*) The original is as follows:—Acquietantia pro herbagio in Bolland, Penhull, et Rossendale. Nouerint universi p presentes nos Abbatem et conuentum de Whalley recepisse et habuisse die confectionis presentium de Thoma Stanley milite receptore dni Regis in comitatu Lancastrie undecim libras tresdecim solidos et quatuor denarios p decima herbagij et agistamenti diuersorum clausorum in Bowland, Penhull, et Rossendale de anno ultimo preterito terminat. ad festum sancti Michaelis ultim preterit. De quibz quid em xj. libr. xij. sol. et iiij. denar. fatemur nobis fore solut. dict. p dnum Regem ac receptorem predictum inde esse quietos p presentes. In cuius rei

in Bolland, Pendle, and *Rossendale* forests for one year ending Michaelmas, to Sir Thomas Stanley, of Knowsley, Comptroller of the Household, and Chamberlain to the King. This deed bears date the 20th November in the 23rd year (1445) of the reign of Henry VI.

Assuming, as we may fairly do, that this payment represented the one tenth part of the value of the cultivated lands in the three forests named, it would appear that in 1445 the total yearly value amounted to £116 13s. 4d. In the year 1311, the herbage in Rossendale (excluding Brandwood) was valued at only £5 10s. per annum, and in 1507 it had increased to £127 19s. 6d.; so that even before the disforestation, a marked progression in value is apparent.

The following Commission of King Henry VII, relates to the Puture Rents within the Forests, exclusive of Brandwood, which was exempt from all claim for puture :—

"To oure right trustie and well-beloved Father, the Erle of Derby; George Stanley, Knt.; Lord Strange; Sir Henry Halsall, Knt.; Sir Ihon. Towneley; Sir Ric. Sherburne, Knt., &c.

"Whereas of olde use and custome the Foresters and keepers of oure Forests of Penhull, *Rossingdale*, Accrington, and Trawden, have hadde of verie right and dutie at c'tayne tymes and daies meate and drinke of the tenants therein and adjoining, the which is now called Puture, otherwise Forster Fee, as is sett forth in a boke, in which boke it also apperith, that for divers displesours and annoyances that ye seide Forster committed agaynst ye seide tenants, ther wyves, and s'vaunts, ye seide tenaunts made complaynt to our p'genitors Dukes of Lancaster, whereupon ye seide tenaunts bounde themselves, their heyres, and tenures, to our p'genitours, to pay for tyme being, yerely XIII. XIIIs. IVd. to seide Foresters towards ther wages, and in recompence of ther meat and drinke, called Forster Fee, ye which was paid to ye 1st yeare of King Edward IVth.; in which yere, by labr and meanes made with hym, ye seide Puture was putt in respite, soe that CXIX/. VIIs. VIIId. is now in respite, wch, if it shod be longer delayed, wold turn to our disherison, and ye utter destruction of oure Forst, for lack of kepyng :

testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibz est appensum. Dat. vicesimo die Novembris anno regni Regis Henrici sexti vicesimo tertio.

The Sir Thomas Stanley above named was summoned to Parliament as Baron Stanley on 20th January, 1456.

"Wherefor wee will and desire, and nathless charge youe, and anie five of youe, to call before you, as well our tenaunts nowe in being within ye seide Forests, as other most ancient p'sons adjoining, as ye in your discretioun shall think most convenient, and enquire which of ye seide tenaunts ought to pay ye seide Duties, and what some ev'y one of ym, after ye old usuage and custom ther, and thereupon to compel them, and evy of them to paye ye seide some, and for default to distreyn them and ther tenures, and for utter refusing thereof to seaze on ther tenures imediately, and admyt such other persons as will bee content to paye ye sd Duties."

The foregoing is eminently characteristic of the grasping, lucre-loving spirit of the king. Henry loved money for its own sake, and never was known to let slip an opportunity of obtaining it. "Indifferent enough to the rights of the people, he was always ready to increase his hoarded riches by cunning extortion rather than by parliamentary taxation." (i) Lord Bacon, the historian of his reign, observes, that, "Of nature, assuredly, he coveted to accumulate riches," and that "he did but traffic in the war with Charles VIII. of France, to make his return in money." "Even the king's clemency seems to have been influenced by the sordid motive of selling pardons; and it has been shown that he made a profit of every office in his court, and received money for conferring bishoprics." (j)

At the same time, it is but fair to admit that he appears to have been legally justified in enforcing the claim above set forth. Henry possessed business talents and administrative powers of a high order; the exercise of which, though chiefly with a view to his own increase in wealth, tended to the advancement of his Country. He was accustomed to give his personal supervision to matters of trade and commerce usually considered as beneath the immediate notice of royalty. In an ancient Illumination in the Harleian Collection in the British Museum, the king is depicted mace in hand, in the Exchequer Chamber, superintending the proofs of the standards for testing weights and measures.

(i) Knight's History of England, vol. II. p. 211.

(j) Hallam. Constitutional History. vol. i. p. 15.

I have thought it well to give the somewhat ragmentary details contained in this Chapter, relating to the district as it actually existed as a Forest, because they are the only materials which a true forest-history can fairly be expected to offer to the enquirer. The narrative is somewhat disjointed, and there is doubtless an absence, to some extent, of purely human interest in the story; but this arises from the circumstance that in those early days the human inhabitant was himself all but absent; the only representatives of the species being the chief Forester (not necessarily a resident), with a few stray keepers of the deer, and here and there a humble cultivator of the open spaces in the higher reaches of the valleys. The details, also, may serve to close the mouths of certain facetious critics who have been inclined to make merry over the conception that Rossendale as they see it to-day, with its smoky factory chimneys, and straggling rows of cottages, could, at any past time, have been entitled to the designation of "a royal forest;" or that the antlered deer and other picturesque animals could ever have graced the hill sides, or slaked their thirst at the streams in the valleys. Such critics are apparently oblivious of the fact that it is their own narrow mental vision and restricted knowledge which are at fault, and that the picture as drawn is not the mere creation of the fertile brain of a too fanciful historian.



CHAPTER III.

"Of all pleasures or pastimes ever heard or seen,
There's none in the world like to merry Hunting."

—OLD HUNTING SONG.

"Marry ! but these be hard laws, my master."

—OLD PLAY.

ROSSENDALE has, from time immemorial, been a favourite hunting-ground ; and there are, doubtless, still to be found in the Forest sportsmen as stout of heart and lithe of limb as ever cleared dike or ditch in the blythe days of yore ; but alas ! the quality of the sportsman's game has woefully degenerated from its pristine excellence. Gone from within its bounds is that right royal brute, the stag ; the wild boar, the badger and the wolf have given place to a civilisation which tolerates not their existence ; even the wily fox has disappeared from its hill-sides, and no thrifty house-wife now laments her spoliated hen-roost. The children's nursery rhyme records an incident which must have been of common occurrence in Rossendale in times past, when it states that—

"Old Mother Widdle-waddle, jump'd out of bed,
And out of the window popped her head :
Crying 'John ! John ! John ! the gray goose is gone,
And the Fox is away to his den, O !'"

But ~~Raynard~~ has sought regions more favourable to his depre-
dations. The timid hare alone remains to kindle the huntsman's
enthusiasm, and wake the "vollied thunder" of the eager pack.

"The ~~Peas~~ of Whalley, like other ancient and dignified
~~Reverend~~ were mighty hunters, and enjoyed the right of

chase—first, to a considerable extent in other manors adjoining to their own domains ; and, secondly, within the forests themselves.” It is related that Liwlphus, one of the Deans of Whalley, while hunting in the Forest of Rossendale, at a place called Deansgreve, cut off the tail of a wolf, and in consequence of this incident acquired the appellation of “Cutwulph,” being afterwards known by the name of “Liwlphus Cutwulph.” This circumstance happened about the reign of King Canute (1016—1035), in whose time the aforementioned Dean lived.

Any outline of the History of the Forest of Rossendale would be manifestly incomplete which failed to give some account of the Laws by which the English Forests were governed, and the peculiar customs and practices which prevailed therein in primitive times. Those particulars I propose, briefly, to supply.

A Forest is a certain Territory of woody grounds, with occasional clearances or cultivated pastures, privileged for wild beasts, and fowls of Forest, Chase, and Warren, to abide and rest there, in the king's safe protection, and for his delight and pleasure. This Territory or ground so set apart, is meered and bounded with certain marks, meres, and boundaries, known either by matter of record or by prescription ; and replenished with beasts of Venery or Chase, and great coverts of Vert, for the succour of the various beasts. And that this Territory may be preserved and continued, along with the Vert and Venison which it contains, there are particular Officers, Laws and Privileges, requisite for that purpose, proper only to a Forest, and to no other place. (a)

The English Forests are of a very remote antiquity, the latest formed being the New Forest, in Hampshire, created by William the Conqueror, and the Forest of Hampton Court, by Henry VIII. Their first lawmaker was the Danish King Canute, who promulgated the *Constitutiones de Foresta*. These were superseded, though in their principal features closely imitated, by a code of laws inaugurated after the Conquest ; and certain officers were

(a) Manwood's Forest Laws, ed. 1717, p. 143

deputed, and courts established for their due administration. The courts so constituted were—the “Justice-Seat,” held every third year before the Chief Justice in Eyre of the Forest; the “Swainmote,” held thrice every year before the verdurers, and a jury composed of twelve swains or freeholders; and the “Woodmote,” or “Attachment,” held once in every forty days before the verdurers. Of the holding of the Justice-Seat, forty days’ notice by proclamation had to be given.

The officers of a Forest were the warden, warder, or keeper, rangers, verdurers, foresters, agistors, regards, bailiffs, and bedels, woodwards or woodreeves. The preservation of the “venison” was intrusted to the foresters; and the “vert” was in charge of the woodwards or woodreeves, and the regards. The verdurers or verderers are the judges of the Forest courts. The business of the bedel or beadle was to give notice of the time when the Courts of the Forest were to be kept, to make all kinds of proclamations in Court and out of it, and to execute all the processes of the Forest.

“Venison,” in the language of the Forest laws, is a technical term, and includes game of every kind. “Vert” has reference to the trees and shrubs which afford shelter to the game, and signifies “everything that bears a green leaf, but especially great and thick coverts.”

A Forest differs from a Chase in three things—in its Laws, its Officers, and in its particular Courts for the execution of the Laws. Offenders in a Chase are punishable by the Common Law, and not by the Laws of the Forests. The officers who are called Foresters in a Forest, are named Keepers in a Chase.

Beasts of Forest are hart, hind, hare, boar, and wolf. Beasts of Park or Chase are the buck, doe, fox, marten, and roe. Beasts of Warren are the hare, coney, and roe—all, legally, wild animals of venery. Fowls of Warren are such as the partridge, quail, rail, pheasant, woodcock, mailard, and heron.

The king appropriated the Forests for his own special use and pleasure. With Chases and Parks it was otherwise; these could

be constructed under a licence, and owned and held by any subject, and were not governed by the Laws of the Forests.

Some exceptions there were to this rule, however ; and the Forests of Lancaster, in which was included the Forest of Rossendale, were of those exceptions ; for before they became the property of the Crown they were under the Forest Laws, and had all the various officers and courts appertaining thereto. " By the Records of the Duchy Court of Lancaster, it appears that the Earl of Lancaster had a Forest in the Counties of Lancaster and York in the reign of Edward II. and Edward III., and did execute the Forest Laws there in as ample a manner as ever any king did before him. And even at this day (about the end of the sixteenth century) there are no Records extant which are of that validity relating to Forests as those Laws are ; and therefore it is necessary for him who will be learned in the Forest Laws, carefully to read the Assizes of the Forests of Lancaster and Pickering, in which he will find many precedents of Judgments and Resolutions, and almost anything which may happen or relate to Forests." (b)

In 7 Edward II., the Earl of Lancaster makes complaint—
" That several malefactors and disturbers of the peace, by force and arms have entered his free chases in Penhull, Trouden, Acrington, Rossindale, Hoddesden, Romesgrene, and Todinton, and his parks in Penhull and Todinton, in the county of Lancaster, and his free chases of Boweland and Marchedan, &c., without his leave ; and chased, taken, and carried away his wild animals, besides perpetrating other great enormities therein."

In Saxon times, though the game was strictly preserved, and penalties inflicted for unlawful appropriation and for trespass ; yet the laws were comparatively mild and merciful, not, except in isolated cases, going beyond pecuniary fines or imprisonment, and every proprietor had the right of hunting on his own estate. But after the Conquest, a stern and merciless code was introduced,

(b) Manwood, ed. 1717, p. 205.

and the severest penalties were inflicted, with the most relentless and savage cruelty, upon the unhappy law-breaker.

The haughty Normans ruled with a high hand, and the Anglo-Saxon and Danish population groaned under the iron despotism of the conquerors. The king became the sole proprietor of the game throughout the country, and no person might hunt even on his own property. The life of a human subject was accounted of less value than that of a buck or a doe, for the punishment of death was awarded upon those who were known to kill either. If found taking a boar, the unfortunate culprit paid the forfeit with his eyes, which were pulled out of his head ; the lopping of a limb was a common punishment for illegally hunting the roe or fox ; and a fine equivalent almost to ruin and the loss of entire worldly possessions was inflicted for taking a hare or other inferior game.

It is impossible to read with any degree of calmness of the atrocities which were perpetrated under shelter of the Forest Laws during the reign of William Rufus, and with the direct cognisance of that brutal king. Confiscation, castration, and hanging, were the familiar punishments of the time ; and such modes of punishment, varying in degree according to the humane or tyrannical disposition of succeeding princes, continued in operation during a period of nearly two hundred years.

In the reign of Henry III., and to the credit of that prince and his successor, Edward I., who really inaugurated the milder policy, the inhuman laws of the earlier kings were abolished ; and it was ordained, " That no man from henceforth shall lose either life or limb for killing our Deer ; but if any man be taken therewith, and convicted for taking of our Venison, he shall make grievous fine, if he hath anything whereof to make fine ; and if he have nothing, he shall be imprisoned a year and a day, and after that, if he can find sufficient sureties, he shall be delivered ; and if not, he shall adjure the Realm." (c) Hard enough, in all conscience !

(c) Manwood, ed. 1717, p. 404.

In the Carta Foresta of Henry III. the following curious provision appears:—"Whatsoever Archbishop, Bishop, Earl, or Baron coming to us at our commandment, passeth by our Forest, it shall be lawful for him to take and kill one or two of our Deer by the view of the Forester if he be present; or else he shall cause one to blow an horn for him, that he seem not to steal our Deer; and likewise they shall do returning from us."

The following further provision of Edward I. is characteristic of the times:—"If any Deer be found dead or wounded, there shall be an Inquisition made by four of the next Villages to the Forest, which shall be written in the Roll; the Finder shall be put by six pledges, and the flesh shall be sent to a Spittal House, [Hospital,] if, by the testimony of the Verderors and the County, there be any nigh: but if there be no such house near, the flesh shall be given to the poor and lame, the head and skin shall be given to the poor of the next Town; and the Arrow, if there be any found, shall be presented to the Verderor, and inrolled in his Roll." Commenting on the foregoing, Manwood, the great authority on the Forest Laws, writing about the end of the reign of Elizabeth, says,—"*All this must be intended of such Deer which are not sweet or fit to be eaten by the better sort of people, for if a principal beast is found newly killed, 'tis not intended by this Statute that it should be given to an Hospital,*" &c. (d)

Spaniels and Greyhounds were forbidden in the Forest, but the Mastiff was admitted, provided the claws and pelote of its forefeet were cut off, to prevent its chasing the Deer. This cutting off the claws was termed "hambling," or "expedition," and was performed as follows:—The foot of the animal was placed upon a piece of wood eight inches thick, and twelve inches square; a chisel two inches broad was then set upon the three claws, which were struck off by the skin at one blow. Dr. Whitaker states that in Bowland expedition was not governed by species, but by the size of the dog—an iron ring being kept as a gauge, through which every foot that would pass escaped the operation.

(d) Manwood, ed. 1717, 409.

The agisting of goats and sheep within the Forest was not allowed, except by special license; for they so tainted the pasture where they fed, that the beasts of the Forest would not depasture in those places where they had been.

Any person having woods and lands within the boundaries of the Forest was allowed to agist his own land with his own cattle, but not with the cattle of strangers, for the herbage only. But for the pannage, (mast of trees), they were permitted not only to agist their woods with their own hogs and swine, but also with those belonging to a stranger. The reason of the difference was to prevent the cropping of the pastures so bare as to be prejudicial to the deer for want of food.

The Boundaries of a Forest are of two classes—inclusive and exclusive. Of the former are highways; and of the latter are churches, churchyards, mills, houses, and trees; these, though bounding the Forest, are not considered to be within its limits. But if any person kill or hunt any of the king's Deer in an inclusive boundary, the offence is the same as if committed within the Forest proper. The law further provides that the Forester may take a man if he be found either at "Dog-draw," "Stable-stand," "Back-bear," or "Bloody-hand."

"Dog-draw," is where a man, having wounded a deer, is found with a hound or other dog, drawing after him to recover the deer so wounded.

"Stable-stand," is where a man is found at his stand, with a crossbow, or longbow, ready to shoot at any deer; or standing close by a tree with greyhounds in his leash ready to let slip.

"Back-bear," is where a man has killed a deer in the Forest, and is found carrying him away.

"Bloody-hand," is where a man is found in the Forest, with his hands or other part bloody, and under suspicion of having killed a deer.

All these offenders are said, in Forest Law, to be "*taken in the manner.*"

The time of the Fawning of the Deer was called the Fence month. It began fifteen days before, and ended fifteen days after midsummer. During this month no person was suffered to wander out of the highway into the Forest. By the ancient Assizes of the Lancaster Forests, it appears that this Law was rigidly enforced—no person being allowed to pass near the place where the animals resorted at this time. No cattle, swine, nor any description of dog whatsoever—whether expeditated or not, were allowed to feed or wander in the Forest during this period. If any hogs, goats or sheep were found in the Forest during the Fence-month they were forfeited to the king—so careful was the Law to guard the royal animal from every kind of disquiet.

In ancient times the following rhymed Oath was taken by every human inhabitant of the Forest, and being twelve years of age :—

" You shall true Liege-man be,
Unto the King's Majestie :
Unto the beasts of the Forest you shall no hurt do,
Nor to anything that doth belong thereunto ;
The offences of others you shall not conceal,
But, to the utmost of your power, you shall them reveal
Unto the Officers of the Forest,
Or to them who may see them redrest :
All these things you shall see done,
So help you GOD at his Holy Doom." (e)

Many of the laws enumerated above have been repealed ; some, though not abolished, have fallen into disuse ; while others are in operation to this day.

The Purlieus are lands, afforested by some of the earlier kings, in the vicinity of the ancient Forests ; but which, in the time of Richard I., were disforested by a Commission appointed to make perambulations, and to restore the ancient and true boundaries. The lands in question, though severed from the Forests by these perambulations, did not recover their former position, but were made subject to distinct and particular laws.

(e) Manwood, ed. 1717, p. 78.

Parks were extensive enclosures of pasture land, thinly planted with trees, maintained for the purpose of fattening the larger animals for the table of the king and the nobles; for better view of the beasts of venery; and occasionally for the enjoyment of the pleasures of the hunt, with fewer of the risks and dangers which necessarily attended its exercise in the depth of the Forest.

In past times Musbury [the hill of moss] was the Park or Laund of the Forest of Rossendale, and custody of the herbage thereon was granted to James de Radcliffe, by John of Gaunt, in the eighteenth year of the reign of Richard II. (1395.) A lease was also granted of the same Park to Richard Radcliffe, of Radcliffe, for twenty years, at the rent of £8 6s. 8d., in the ninth of Edward IV. (1470,) and, at the expiration of the term, was renewed to him for the like period at the old rent. (f)

Speaking of the same Park, Baines remarks:—"Of the township in the Parish of Bury, Musbury, at its north-western extremity, is in the Hundred of Blackburn. The hill of Tor, in this township, is remarkable for its oval form and extensive views over the neighbouring wild and romantic region. From the act of resumption of the Crown possessions, passed in the first of Henry VII. (1485,) it appears that the patent office, then existing, of park keeper of Musbury, was held by Laurens Maderer, and that his rights and privileges were secured by that Act." (g)

(f) Townley MSS., cited by Dr. Whitaker in Hist. Whalley, p. 222.

(g) Baines's Hist. Lancashire, vol. ii. p. 673.



CHAPTER IV.

"Rise, honest Muse! and sing the man of Ross."—*Pope*.

THE following interesting note occurs in "The Sheriff's of Shropshire," (a) —

"Henry Rossyndale, of Rosindale, near Claderow, county Lancaster, gentleman, had lands given him and his heirs in the lordship of Denbigh, Anno 12, Edward I., by Henry Lacy, Earl of Lincoln and Lord of Denbigh, upon condition of serving, with a certain number of horses, certain days in the Castle of Denbigh, in all the wars between the King of England and the Prince of Wales, at his own charge and cost. This Henry of Henllan, (the name of the place or parish in Wales where he lived), had issue Robert his son, who was called Lloyd, after the manner of Wales."

• MS. at Ynysmaengwyn.

So far as I am aware, this is the earliest known record of any actual Rossendale inhabitant, and the date would be 1284, which is the 12th year of the reign of Edward I. above mentioned. It would be the merest speculation to attempt to fix the particular locality of his abode in Rossendale.

It has been recounted in a previous chapter that the house of Lacy, the first of which family in this country, Ilbert de Lacy, came from Normandy with the Conqueror, became the possessors of the Hundred of Blackburn or Honor of Clitheroe, of which the Forest of Rossendale forms a part. The Forest continued in their possession through a series of generations, and on the marriage of

(a) The Sheriff's of Shropshire by the Rev. John Brickdale Blakeway, M.A., F.A.S., Minister of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1831.

Alice de Lacy to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, the house of Lancaster became the owners. This Thomas was subsequently beheaded for joining the insurrection of the Barons, and at his death his wife Alice surrendered into the hands of Edward II., all the Forest of Rossendale with the appurtenances. During the reign of Edward I., therefore, Rossendale belonged to the Lacys, and the Henry Rossyndale referred to doubtless resided here, and owned a portion of the Forest copyhold under a lease from the said Henry de Lacy.

This Henry Rossyndale was evidently a personage of importance, as is shown by the circumstance of his receiving the grant of lands in Denbighshire from Henry de Lacy, who was also lord of Denbigh. It is highly probable that he took his surname from the place of his habitation. That is, he would be designated "Henry de Rossyndale," viz: Henry of Rossyndale.

The following further particulars of this Rossendale family are given in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, a record of the antiquities of Wales and its marches, and the Journal of the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

"One of the descendants of this Henry Rossyndale, viz., William Lloyd, alias Rosindale, married Isabella Peake, the daughter and heiress of Richard Peake and Alicia Tetenhall his wife, and had issue Humphrey Lloyd, the distinguished antiquary, who died in the year 1568. The Peake family was both ancient and rich, and William Rosindale, by virtue of this alliance, quartered the arms Peake, Tetenhall and Hilton with his own.

"In the monument of Humphrey Lloyd, at Whitchurch, are the four quarterings of Rosindale, alias Lloyd, impaling eight of Peake by his wife. The four are Rosindale, Tetenhall, Hilton and Peake. In the Harl. MS. 1791, is a copy of the Rosindale quarterings including all taken with the Peake alliance, impaling Peake and Tetenhall, of Hilton.

"By the William Rosindale and Isabella Peake was existing in 1490, in Whitchurch Parish Church, the following inscription, (appar-

ently on glass ; but if on brass or stone it is probably now under some pew) :—

'Hic jacet Willm. Rsondall Armiger
et dna Isabella Peeke consors suus,
qui obiet xxx de mensis January
an din 1414 qs aloz p' picietur
Deus.'

"The Rosindale arms were the first azure a roebuck rampant, or ; the fourth, or, a roebuck rt. azure, with a rose gules on the shoulder of each. It is worthy of remark that in the arms of Rosindale, in all MSS. in the time of Elizabeth, in Vincent, on Humphrey Lloyd's monument, and as quartered by the Lloyds of Aston (who are direct descendants of this William Rosindale), now, are quarterly four roebucks passant, countercharged of the field or and azure, in one azure and or."

From all this it would appear without the slightest question or doubt, that Henry Rosyndale of Rosindale, to whom was granted lands in the county of Denbigh, by Henry de Lacy, in the reign of Edward I., was the veritable founder of an important branch of the family of Lloyd.

Of another member of the same family at Rosindale, Adam de Rosindale, who was probably a brother of Henry, as he also lived during the reign of Edward I., there are interesting records in connection with Hulme Hall, a picturesque residence on the banks of the river Irwell, near Manchester, now destroyed, but of which there are engraved views extant. These views are to be found in *Lancashire Illustrated*. A side view of the elevation of the Hall, with the bridge and Manchester in the distance, is given in *Baines' History of Lancashire*. (b) A view also appears in the *Penny Magazine* (c) ; and the porch or principal entrance, forms the frontispiece to Vol. I. of the *Palatine Note Book*. The same volume contains engravings of grotesque wood carvings contained in this hall, amongst which are "The Philosophic Devil," and

(b) Vol. II. page 352.

(c) March 2nd, 1844, page 89.

"The Bag-piper," and, as a tail-piece to the volume, "Symbolic Figures." In *Baines' History*, also, are two plates containing drawings of forty-one subjects from the sculptured panels. These carvings are now in Lady Ellesmere's room at the New Hall, Worsley.

The ancient residence, Hulme Hall, or Holme, was, as stated, on the banks of the Irwell. It belonged to Adam de Rosindale in the time of Edward I., as is proved by a grant from the said Adam of thirty shillings per annum to Henry de Trafford, out of his Manor of Hulme juxta Manchester, for life, dated 31st of Edw. fil Regis Hen. The property subsequently passed through a succession of hands, viz:—the Prestwiches, the Mosleys, and the Blands, and in 1751 it was purchased by George Lloyd, Esq., and sold by him in 1764 to the Duke of Bridgewater, whose canal passes in the immediate neighbourhood of the site. The Duke, who cared little for the picturesque and much for the practical, divided the hall into separate tenements. It eventually fell into decay, and is now demolished.

It is an interesting circumstance that the hall was bought by George Lloyd, Esq., of Manchester in 1751. It is presumptive evidence that Lloyd was acquainted with its history, as being one of the ancestral homes of a relative of his Rossendale progenitor. The Lloyds were an important family in Manchester, Gamaliel Lloyd (probably the father of George) was churchwarden from 1710 to 1718, and in 1745 he subscribed £50 to a fund for raising troops to be employed against the forces of the Pretender.

The name "Rossendale" as a surname, was at one time common enough.

In the Preston Guild Rolls, viz., in the roll of Guild Merchant of 3rd Henry the Fifth, 1415, appears the name of "Will de Rossyndale IIIJs." The name is contained in the second list of burgesses, which consists of those whose fathers were not in the guild; who could not, therefore, enter the guild by birthright, but were admitted on payment of various stipulated fines. (d) The fine

(d) Memorials of the Preston Guilds, by W. A. Abram.

paid by the said Will de Rossyndale was 4s. as stated. Judging by the name, it is probable that this William was a descendant of the Henry or Adam de Rossnydale already referred to, both names having the prefix "de," and being spelt alike.

In a list of "Craven Men" at the battle of Flodden Field, (fought 9th Sept., 1513), from the battle roll at Bolton Abbey, in the possession of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, there is an entry as follows,—

"Marton for Mosters. Robert Rossendale, a Bill. To be hors'd and harnish'd at the town's cost."

In the survey of Whalley Abbey possessions when the monastery was dissolved, (1537), is an item as follows,—

"Ashton Grange. Robte Rosendall houldeth a mess. and an acre of medow and X. acres of arable land, and payeth yearly £0 19s. 2d."

The name "Thomas Rosindall Bayley" occurs in the same document.

The following references to persons bearing the name of "Rossendale" are to be found in the diary of the Rev. Oliver Heywood, B.A. (e)

"Jere Rossendale, of Skircote, buried Oct. 15th, aged 80. Very rich." [1683].

"Wid. Rossendale, near Halifax, buried Sept. 4, about 70." [1688].

"Mr. Rossendale, buried at Halifax, May 27." [1696].

"Mr. Abraham Langley or Priestley, and Ms. Rossendale married July 1697."

"Mr. John Hollings, of Shepley, near Bradford, and Mrs. Mary Rossendale, near Halifax, married Feby. 24." [1708].

"Mr. Rawson, ye attorney in Bradford, and Mrs. Grace Rossendale, near Halifax, married Aug. 4." [1709].

"Mr. Jeremiah Rossendale went with his wife to London, on Lord's Day, 3, 96. The news came he was dead there, May 19; shortened his days by intemperance. Aged 27." [1749].

(e) Edited by J. Horsfall Turner, and published at Brighouse.

In a volume entitled, "The Antiquities of the town of Halifax, in Yorkshire," by the Rev. Thos. Wright, of Halifax, and published in 1738, the following note occurs,—

"On a stone and brass plate in the Chancel (of the Old Church, Halifax): 'Here lieth the body of Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah Rossendale, of Shaw Hill, in Skircoat, who departed this life the 18th day of January, in the second year of his age, 1694; and also the body of Mr. Jeremiah Rossendale, his father, who departed this life May 17th, and was interred May 27th, 1696.'"

From all this it would appear that the name "Rossendale," as a surname, was not uncommon in Yorkshire about 150 to 200 years ago.



BOOK THIRD.



CHAPTER I.

What are thy rents? What are thy comings in?"—KING HENRY V.

IT is from the Reign of Henry VII. that we must date the beginning of the real progress of Rossendale ; which, in no small degree, is due to the king's foresight, in the measures which he enacted as lord of the Hundred.

The following instrument, promulgated by this most subtle of rulers in taking advantage of whatever seemed to promise an augmentation of his revenues, will be read with interest by all who care to trace the progress of this district from its primitive condition as a forest, harbouring "nothing else but deer and other savage and wild beasts," to its present eminence in manufacturing industry and skill.

"COMMISSION FOR GRAUNTINGE OF THE FORRESTS.

"In anno vicessimo secundo Henrici Septimi.

"Henry, by the grace of God, Kinge of Englande and of France, and Lorde of Irelande, to our trustie and well-beloved the Stewarde that now is, and that hereafter shall be, of our possessions of Blakburneshyere, within our countie palatyne of Lancaster, greeting. —For so much as heretofore we, by our lres of commission, under the seale of our dutchie of Lancaster, have deputed and appointed Sir John Boothe and others, to vewe and survey all our groundes, castles, and lordshyps, within our said countie palatyne, and there-

upon to improve the same, and every parcel of them, for our most singuler profitt and advantage, whereupon we understand that our said commissioners have endeavoured themselves, surveying and approving the same accordinge to our saide commission and pleasure, and have made graunte and promisse of lease of certaine of our landes and tenements within our saide county, to the tenor and effect of a schedule, to these our lres annexed, to certaine persons, to have and to hould to them and their heires for terme of lyfe or lyves, or for term of yeares, after the custome of the manor, by copie of court roll, for execution and accomplishment whereof we have authorised, and by these presente authorize and geve you full authoritie and power, by these our lres, callinge unto you the saide Sir John Boothe, and by his advyse, to sett and lett all suche of our saide landes and tenements as bee or lye within your saide office, to the said personns, for suche rents yearlie as bee contained in the said schedule, to have and to houlde to them and to their heires or otherwise, for term of liefie or yeares, at the libertie or choise of our said tenantes, and for the full accomplishment of the said promise and graunte, taking sufficient security of the said persons for the sure paimente of the same rente, as yee shall see best and most convenient. And also that upon the death or exchange of everie tenant, that yee make newe lease or leases to such personne or personnes after the deathe or exchange of any such tenant or tenants of the same, as the same land shall happen to be granted by you, takinge of everie suche tenant as shall happen to exchange or decease, one whole yeare's rent of the said tenant; and that yee shall take for a fine accordinge as other our tenentes there, beinge copieholders tyme out of mynd, gave, and used to paie in such cases, over and above their ancient and oulde yearlie rent of the same, provyded and alwaie forseene, that yee, by color of your said leases, doe not demyse our said rent, fynes, and gersomes, nor other duties, due and demandeable for us in that parte. And these our lres shal bee unto you at all tymes sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalfe: whiche our lres wee will that yee doe enter into your court

rolles, there to remaine of recorde for the more suretie of everie of our said tenants, for their saide leases, to bee had and made accordingly.—Given at our cittie of London, under the seale of our saide duchie, the 19th daie of Maie, in the 17th yeare of our reigne."

There were in the reign of Edward II. eleven Vaccaries—Cow Pastures or Booths, as they are now designated, in the Forest of Rossendale, the herbage of which was (1311) valued at ten shillings each, per annum, or five pounds ten shillings for the whole; but the number of these was afterwards increased to nineteen (still later to twenty, including Yate and Pickup Bank), and in the Decree of 22 Henry VII. (1507,) which was confirmed 2 James I. (1604,) their names and estimated value are given as follows :—

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Gamulside, | IVl. | .. | .. |
| Dunnockshawe, | III. | III. | IVd. |
| Love Clough, | VI. | .. | .. |
| Goodshawe, | VI. | VI. | VIIId. |
| Crawshaweboothe, | IXl. | .. | .. |
| Constablelee, | VI. | .. | .. |
| Rawtonstall, | III. | XIVs. | Id. |
| Dedqueneclough, | Xl. | XII. | VIIId. |
| Wolfenden Boothe, | IVl. | XVII. | Id. |
| Tunstead, | VI. | XII. | .. |
| Lenches, | IVl. | VI. | VIIId. |
| Cowhope, | VI. | XIII. | IVd. |
| New-Hall Heye, | VII. | XIII. | IVd. |
| Oakenheade Woode, | IXl. | VIII. | Id. |
| Musbury, | XIII. | Is. | VIIId. |
| Hoddleden, | IXl. | XIX. | Id. |
| Bacope, | XII. | XVI. | VIIId. |
| Wolfenden, | XIII. | V. | Id. |
| Henheads, | .. | XIII. | .. |

Brandwood Higher and Lower end, though not given in the above enumeration, the Land there being freehold, is still part and parcel of the Forest.

In Dedquene Cloghe [Deadwenclogh] is contained the hamlet or village of Newchurch, which gives name to the Chapelry. A lease of this booth was granted to James de Greenhalgh, which

was attested at Lancaster by Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, regent in the minority of Henry VI. (a)

Referring to Wolfenden, [the den of Wolves,] Baines remarks that the Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in 20 Edward I. claimed privileges for this place by charter from Henry I. (b)

With respect to Bacup Booth, it is recorded that in 5 Henry V. the king granted to John Booth, of Barton, Esq., "his vaccary of Bacope, within his Forest of Rossyndale." To the same person the king granted a certain pasture called New Hall Hey, for the term of ten years, so that the said John Booth and his assignees shall neither kill nor destroy any wild beast within the forest aforesaid. (c)

Henheads, which is situated at the north-western extremity of Rossendale, and is extra parochial, has an area of 317 acres, 0 roods, 24 poles, and consisted in those days of waste or common lands, being held in common by the copyhold tenants of Dunnockshawe, Loveclough, Goodshaw, Crawshaw, Constablee, Rawtenstall, Deadwencloough and Wolfenden Booths, who paid a total rent of 13s. 0d. per annum for the use of the same, contributed proportionately to the value of their respective holdings.

The following particulars relating to the vaccaries of Rossendale, and the rent of lands therein, are from the Compotus of Blackburnshire, by Thomas, Lord Stanley, Master Forester, and Chief Steward, A. Edward IV., 4to, in the office of the Duchy of Lancaster, cited in Whitaker's Whalley, Addenda, 523:—

| | | | |
|--|-------|------|---------|
| " Jacobo Radeliff de Radcliff, pro Parco de Musbury, | VIII. | Xs. | od. |
| Rich. Barton, pro Newhall Hey, | VIII. | os. | od. |
| Joh. Hargreaves, &c. pro Henhades et Frerehull, .. | of. | III. | IVd. |
| Eodem, pro vaccaria de Cowhour, (Qu. De Cowhope,) | VII. | os. | od. |
| Eodem, pro vaccaria de Rowtanstall, | XI. | os. | od. |
| Et vaccaria de Constaballegh, | } | XI. | os. od. |
| Et pro. 1 claus. vocato Okenheved Wode, | | | |

(a) Baines's Hist. Lanc. vol. iii. p. 274.

(b) Baines's Hist. Lanc. vol. iii. p. 278.

(c) Townley MSS. g. 17, cited by Baines.

| | | | |
|--|-------|------|----------|
| Ric. Barton, pro. vaccar. de Dede when clogh, .. | VII. | os. | od. |
| Dict. Will. Leyland, pro vac. de Wolfenden bothe, .. | VII. | os. | od. |
| Eodem, pro vac. de Gamelsheved, | III. | ls. | VIII d. |
| Eodem, pro. vac. de Bacop bothe et Horeleyheved, .. | VIII. | os. | od. |
| Eod. pro vaccario de Tunstead cum le Settyngez de Soclogh, | III. | XVs. | VIII d." |

And in the Compotus of the 12th Edward IV., (1473), cited in Hist. Whalley, Addenda 256, are the following:—

| | | | |
|---|------|-------|----------|
| ' De W. Leyland, pro vaccaria Le Antley, | VII. | os. | od. |
| Eodem, pro Newlaund, in Accrington, et pro vaccaria de Baxtonden, | VI. | os. | od. |
| Eodem, pro Crawshaw both, | VII. | os. | od. |
| Eod., pro vaccar. de Godeshagh, | III. | XIIs. | od. |
| Eod., pro vacc. de Luffeclogh, | III. | os. | od. |
| Eod., pro vacc. de Primrose Sike, | II. | XVIs. | VIII d. |
| Rob. Bothe, mil., pro Rowcliffe Wode, | ol. | XVIs. | VIII d." |

Under the head of " Churches belonging to the late Monastery of Whalley," the following item occurs:—

The tyeth of Rossindall with the tyeth belonging to same.. .. £20 16 0

In an account of all the Manors, Lands, Tenements, &c., with the profits of the same, belonging to the Monastery of Whalley, but at this time in the Hands of King Henry VIII., by reason of the Attainder or Forfeiture of John Paslow, Abbot, who was attainted of and was executed for High Treason, are contained some interesting particulars relating to property within this district.

THE ACCOUNT OF JAMES GARTYSYDE, COLLECTOR OF RENT, FOR ONE WHOLE YEAR, ENDING AT THE FEAST OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL IN THE 29TH (A.D. 1538) OF THE REIGN OF THE LORD NOW KING HENRY VII.

"TONGE END (NEAR WHITWORTH.)

"RENTS OF TENANTS AT WILL.

| | | | |
|---|---|----|----|
| "One House, with Garden, 8 acres of Pasture, and 7 acres of Arable Land, in the tenure of Lawrence Smyth.. .. | £ | s. | d. |
| One House, with Garden, 8 acres of Pasture, and 7 acres of Arable Land, in the tenure of Nicholas Smyth.. .. | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| | 0 | 15 | 0 |

Carry forward £1 10 0

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|---|----|----|
| Brought forward.. .. | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| One House, with Garden, 2 acres of Arable Land, 2 acres of Meadow, and 6 acres of Pasture, in the tenure of Richard Hill | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| One House or Tenement, with Garden, 2 acres of Arable Land, 2 acres of Meadow, and 6 acres of Pasture, in the Tenure of James Hill | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| One House, with Garden, 2 acres of Arable Land, 2 acres of Meadow Land, and 6 acres of Pasture, in the tenure of the Widow of the late Nicholas Hill | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Total | 3 | 0 | 0 |

"ROCLYFF.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|----|
| "RENTS OF TENANTS AT WILL. | | | |
| "Robert Haworth, for one House, with Garden, 6 acres of Arable Land, 5 acres of Meadow Land, and 20 acres of Pasture, with Common for Cattle within the Common of Ugshott and Trough | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| The said Robert, for another House, with Garden, 6 acres of Arable Land, 5 acres of Meadow, and 20 acres of Pasture, with Common in the Common Pasture to the same belonging, | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| Elizabeth, late Widow of John Ashworth, for One House with Garden, 6 acres of Arable Land, 5 acres of Meadow, and 20 acres of Pasture, | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| Hugh Wolstenholme, for one House, with Garden, 1 acre of Arable Land, 2 acres of Pasture, and 1 acre and a half of Meadow, | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| Robert Hele, for one House, with Garden, 1 acre of Arable Land, 2 acres of Pasture, and 1 acre and a half of Meadow, | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| And Edmund Ashworth, for one House, with Gardens, 6 acres of Arable Land, 5 acres of Meadow, and 20 acres of Pasture, | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| Total, | £2 | 13 | 7 |

"BRANDWODD.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| "RENTS OF TENANTS AT WILL. | | | |
| "James Assheworth, for one House, with Garden, 5 acres of Land, 6 acres of Pasture, 4 acres of Meadow, with certain Waste Land there, | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Hugh Assheworth, for one House, with Garden, 3 acres of Meadow, with Pasturage within the Common of Brandwodd, | 0 | 18 | 6 |
| Carry forward | £2 | 0 | 0 |

Forest of Rossendale.

73

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|
| Brought forward | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| William Assheworth, for one House, with Garden, 5 acres of Arable Land, 9 acres of Pasture, and 7 acres of Meadow, .. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| John Assheworth, for one House, with Garden, 5 acres of Arable Land, 9 acres of Pasture, and 7 acres of Meadow, with Pasturage for his Cattle on the Common Pasture of Brandwodd, .. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Henry Assheworth, for one House, with Garden, 4 acres and a half of Arable Land, 4 acres of Pasture, and 10 acres of Meadow, .. | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| And Edmund Assheworth, for one House, 2 acres of Arable Land, 3 acres of Pasture, and 3 acres of Meadow, | 0 | 13 | 4 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Farm or Rent of a Corn Mill there, in the Tenure of Robert Assheworth, | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| Total, | £7 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |

"The whole of the above are charged in the Account of the Receiver-General of the Lord the King, there as in his said Account of this year more fully set forth and appeareth."



CHAPTER II.

"The claims of long descent."—TENNYSON.

WE have already (a) briefly traced the possession of the manorial rights to the property in Rossendale within the Hundred of Blackburn, from the time of the Norman Conquest, down through the intervening centuries to their present ducal owner. A similar duty devolves upon us in regard to the Freehold rights of the lands in Brandwood, in the Township of Spotland, and embraced within Salford Hundred.

In furtherance of this intention, we have recounted how that about the year 1200, during the reign of King John, Roger de Lacy, one of the Lords of the Honor of Clitheroe, granted to the monastery of Stanlaw in Cheshire, that portion of Rossendale called Brandwood; and that in the second year of the reign of Edward III. (1328), the grant in question was ratified and confirmed in favour of the Abbot and Monks of Whalley, the legitimate successors of the original grantees, the monastery having been established at the latter place on its removal from Stanlaw in Cheshire, on account of the inundation of the sea. We have also seen that the Abbot of Whalley, in the seventeenth year of Edward III. (1343), successfully contested the claim on the part of Richard de Ratcliffe, Master Forester, of a right to demand and take puture of the Foresters.

This large and important tract of land (Brandwood) was formerly embraced within the Manor of Rochdale, but, as will immediately appear by a decision of the Court, became separated from it owing to the circumstance of the grant before mentioned.

(a) In Book II. Chap. I.

The land continued in the possession of the Church dominant, until, by the attainder and execution of John Paslew, abbot, and the subsequent dissolution of the monasteries, the possession passed into the hands of King Henry VIII. This king made a grant of the lands to Thomas Holt, of Gristlehurst, Esquire, (afterwards, when in Scotland, knighted by Edward, Earl of Hertford), in capite by knight's service, by the fourth part of a knight's fee. (b) The Grant included all the messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, &c., lying in and being Whitworth, Tonge End, Roclyff, and Brandwood, within the parish of Rochdale. The boundaries of the parish of Rochdale in Rossendale are described in an inquisition taken in the year 1610 as follows:—"Ascending the river Calder to Beaten Clough Foot; and from thence to Beaten Clough Head; and from thence to Shearneyford; and from thence to a hedge or fence, sometimes on one side of the water, sometimes on the other, to Greave Clough; and from thence to Baycop; and from Baycop to Rockliffe Lumme; and from thence following the river to Brandwood; and from thence to Carrgate; and from Carrgate to Cowap Brook, ascending the same brook to its head; and from thence to the height of the moss; and from thence to Archinbutt."

From Thomas Holt, who died March 8, 1561, the property passed to Francis, Thomas, Francis, Theophilus, and Thomas Posthumous Holt, respectively, the latter of whom died, according to a MS. Memorandum which Dr. Whitaker the historian saw, "25th March 1669, after sown sett, a hower, as they report it."

(b) "The division by knight's fee is a familiar feature of the feudal system. The knight's fee in England was fixed at the annual value of twenty pounds. Every estate supposed to be of this value, and entered as such in the rolls of the Exchequer, was bound to contribute the service of a soldier, or to pay an escuage to the amount assessed upon knight's fee."—HALLAM's *Middle Ages*, vol. i. p. 171, *et seq.*

The incidents of tenure by knight's service consisted variously, in addition to military service, of homage, aids to ransom the person of the superior Lord, to marry his eldest daughter, knight his eldest son, relief, &c.—See WILLIAMS' *Real Property*, p. 111.

Thomas Posthumous disposed of the lands to different persons. Rockcliffe passed into the hands of Thomas Baskerville Chapman, 20th February, 17th Charles II., for the sum of £500. Tong Estate was purchased by James Hoyle, of Tong, yeoman, 2d March, 20th Charles II., for £137 10s. 0d. The messuage, tenement, and farmhold, called Stubbylee, and Slack House or Further Hey, and several closes of land in the manor of Spotland, became the property of Edmund Barker, yeoman, May 24th, 21st Charles II. Part of Greave Clough estate was purchased 3d November following by James Grindrod; the remaining portion, with several closes of land called the Upper Parrock, by Richard Lord of Greave Clough, on the 7th May of the next year.

The manor and estate of Rochdale were held in possession for more than two centuries by the Byron family, several members whereof distinguished themselves in the profession of arms, and in more peaceful, but not less honourable, avocations. None of these is better known to fame than Lord Byron, the distinguished poet, who was the last of the family possessing the manor and estate in question. These, in order to get rid of a prolonged and vexatious litigation, he sold in 1823, the year before his lamented death, to James Dearden, Esq., whose heir, James Griffith Dearden, is now lord of the manor.(c)

(c) The following interesting letter of the poet, addressed to Mr. Dearden, in regard to the lands and litigation referred to, is copied from the Raines MSS. in the Chetham Library, Manchester:—

GENOA, 9 September, 1822.

Sir,—You and I have now been eighteen years at law with various success—I succeeded in two decisions and you in one. The appeal is now before the House of Lords. Of the original occasion of this suit I have no great knowledge, since I inherited it and was a child when it began, and for aught I know may arrive at second childhood before it terminates. But I write to you to enquire whether an accommodation might not at least be attempted, and I have not consulted with my lawyers, because they of course would advise the contrary, as your own very probably will; but I dispatch my letter through the medium of the Honourable Douglas Kinnaird, my personal friend as well as trustee, a man of honour and of business, who will

At the Assizes held at Lancaster in March 1833, an action was brought against the late James Maden, Esq., of Greens House, Bacup, by the lord of the manor of Rochdale, in respect to the manorial rights of a certain portion of the Freehold lands above particularised ; and which were claimed by Mr. Dearden, the plaintiff, as being part and parcel of his said manor. At the time when the suit was tried, the following persons were directly interested therein, having come into possession of the Estates either by purchase or bequest :—

Miss Ann Roberts, owner of Ancient House, Rockliffe ; Mr. John Hoyle and wife, of Rockliffe Hey-head, and Hoyle Hey-head ; Mr. James Whitaker, of Rockliffe estate ; Mrs. Mary Veevers, of Higher Tong ; Mrs. Lord, of Hoyle Hey ; Mrs. Susannah Ormerod, of Stubbylee ; Mr. James Maden, of Greave Clough ; Mr. John Law, of Greave and High Houses.

either meet yourself or any friend to discuss the subject. I have no particular propositions to make, but am willing to adjust the business on what may be deemed an equitable basis, either by arbitration or a mutual agreement. My motives for this are simply that I think it would spare anxiety to both sides, and I am neither instigated by avidity nor necessity. My expenses for the suit are paid up to its present period, so that if I lose it I should be but where I was, whereas if you lose, the loss will be considerable, since the litigated property has been and still is in your present occupation.

I should be willing to part also with the undisputed part of Rochdale manor, because I wish to invest the produce of that as well as other monies abroad, since I do not reside in England, and have thought of permanently settling either in Italy or elsewhere. Perhaps, therefore, a mode might be found of combining the two, viz., the adjustment of our lawsuit and the sale of the remainder of the manor, which might not be for your disadvantage. I repeat (as a little enquiry will inform you) that I am not actuated either by avidity or necessity, but by the natural wish to terminate a long lawsuit with its uncertainties. My debts have long been liquidated by the sale of Newstead, and the purchase money settled and invested ; and early in the winter of 1822 I acquired a considerable accession of income by the demise of the mother of Lady B.

If you accept this proposal for a conference either in person or by proxy with the Honourable Mr. Kinnaird or Mr. Crabtree (agent of Sir Francis

A brief summary of the trial is given by Baines in his *History of Lancashire*, (d) from which I have taken the liberty to quote. "In the course of the proceedings it appeared that in the district of Brandwood there were a number of freehold tenements, and a large piece of waste or common land, called Tooter hill and Reaps Moss, to which the owners of the freeholds claimed rights in severality in respect of their tenements. About the year 1814, while Lord Byron was lord of the manor of Rochdale, they agreed to enclose and divide a part of the common amongst them; and in pursuance of this agreement, a stone wall was built round a certain portion of it containing one hundred and forty-five customary acres; a part of this land, amounting to little more than eight acres, formed the cause of the present action, but the result involved the title to the whole enclosure and common, and to the valuable coal and other minerals beneath the surface. The question at issue was, whether Brandwood, which confessedly lies within the ambit of the manor of Rochdale, formed part of that manor, or whether it had not by ancient acts of ownership been separated from it.

"On the part of the plaintiff, the descent of the manor of Rochdale was distinctly shown by the manor rolls to rest in him; and it was proved in evidence that the occupiers of lands in Brandwood, and even the defendant himself, had paid certain customary rents for the waste of Brandwood; and that the lord of

Burdett and of me, at Kirby Mallory), acting for him and me, you can write to Mr. Kinnaird in answer to this, as I am too remote for immediate correspondence; or if not things are but where they were. In either case I bear you no enmity whatever on account of our long litigation, which you can hardly regret more than I do. I have the honour to be, your very obedient humble servant,

NOEL BYRON.

To J. Dearden, Esq., Rochdale.

P.S.—I give you my honour that I have not consulted with my lawyer on this point, nor made any one acquainted with the proposition. I have, however, no objection to your advising with your own on the subject.

(d) Vol. ii. p. 652.

the manor of Rochdale had exercised certain acts of ownership over this district, by letting coal mines under the waste, and by impounding through his pinder cattle belonging to strangers and copyholders, and even to freeholders, when a larger stock was put upon the common than it could support.

“For the defendant it was contended that Brandwood formed part of the manor of Spotland, and that it descended from the monastery of Stanlaw to the monks of Whalley, and from them to the family of Earl Howe, according to a chartulary in his lordship’s possession, exhibited in court.” In this is recited the deed making the original grant, which has already been given at length. The grant and confirmation of Edward III. was likewise put in; as was also the grant of Henry, Earl of Lancaster; and the inquisition, *post mortem*, of Henry first Duke of Lancaster. “In addition to this documentary evidence, several acts of ownership, by living witnesses, were shown to have been exercised over this land, and, after a trial of three days’ continuance, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant, thereby declaring that the district of Brandwood had been separated from the manor of Rochdale.”

Thus ended a trial involving important local interests. It settled, beyond cavil, the freeholders’ rights to much valuable property, their title to the possession of which is thus traced with the greatest ease and precision back to the time of the Conquest.



CHAPTER III.

"There are no tricks in plain and simple faith."—SHAKESPEARE.

DURING the reign of James I. certain circumstances occurred having a most important bearing on much of the property and its ownership within the Forest of Rossendale, as constituting a portion of the Forest of Blackburnshire, to omit making mention of which would be to overlook one of the most noteworthy episodes in its past History.

In order to a clear understanding of the circumstances here referred to, it is necessary that I should carry my readers back to the time of the reign of that astute monarch, Henry VII., when the Forest lands were partitioned out in accordance with the "Commission for Grauntinge of the Forrests." (a) This Instrument from the king, who was lord of the manor, is addressed to his steward, and authorises him to make grants of the vaccaries or booths, after the custom of the manor, by copy of court roll, to such persons, and at such yearly rents, as were contained in a Schedule prepared by Sir John Boothe and others, who had been deputed to survey and view all the king's grounds, castles, and lordships. The rent here spoken of is what, at the present day, is popularly known as the "Duke's Rent"—the yearly sum paid to the lord of the manor for the copyhold. When the manor was in possession of the Crown, the rent would, of course, be known as the "King's" or "Queen's rent."

As the immediate result of the king's commission, the hitherto uncultivated lands within the bounds of the Forest were granted to various persons who became the owners of the copyholds, and

(a) Ante, Chap. I. Book III.

held their several properties on the title which their grants, founded on this Commission, bestowed. That the titles were genuine and incontrovertible was not once doubted. Houses and Farmsteads were erected. Lands were cleared, drained, manured, and tilled, and in the course of time became much enhanced in value. Sales of the Property had been negotiated on the strength of those titles. Children had succeeded their parents as heirs to the various Estates, their interest therein, and legal right thereto, being unquestioned, and, as they believed, unquestionable. Thus matters stood until the Crown Lawyers of the time of King James I. discovered what they declared was a defective title on the part of the copy-holders. (b) This discovery was thus set forth in a letter bearing date April 5, 1607, and addressed to Mr. Auditor Fanshaw, and Ralph Asheton, of Lever, Esq., deputy steward:—"There are within his Majesty's honor of Clitheroe, divers lands which have been only granted by the steward, and by warrant to the steward made, which parcels have been improved out of his majesty's forests and chases, there commonly called lands of the new-hold, which are only, however, of the nature of essart (c) land, and cannot be claimed by custom or prescription to be copyholds."

"This," says Dr. Whitaker, "was a thunderstroke—as it shook to the foundation the titles of twenty-five thousand Lancashire acres of land, and destroyed the comforts and the hopes of many

(b) "In consequence of this [the king's] commission grants of the vaccaries were made; and upon the faith of these titles, houses were built, and improvements, such as the soil was capable of, were made; lands were bought and sold; the first grantees died off, and their heirs or other representatives were regularly admitted in perfect security for more than a century, when the Crown Lawyers of James I. discovered, or pretended to discover, that copyholds of inheritance could not be created, that the lands of the new-hold tenure were of the nature of essart lands, and the occupants, a sort of tenants by sufferance."—*Hist. Whalley*, third edition, p. 209.

(c) "If a Man hath any Woods or Underwoods, or any other Coverts in the Forest, as Heath, Broom, Fern, and he cut it down, or pull it up by the Roots, that the Land is made plain, or converted into Arable or Pastures, then 'tis called assart of the Forest, or Land assarted."—*Manwood*, ed. 1717, p. 20.

families who lived in competence and quiet upon these new improvements, without any other resources." (*d*)

A lengthened litigation ensued, involving a mass of correspondence, and leaving behind, on settlement of the dispute, an array of documents, in the shape of petitions, instruments, commissions, &c., far too numerous to quote or even to enumerate.

The key to the nefarious proceedings on the part of the Crown is supplied by the unwarrantable demand subsequently made on the copyholders for payment of a certain sum to ensure the perfecting of their respective titles to the lands in question.

It is difficult to utter language sufficiently strong in condemnation of the conduct of the ruler and his minions throughout the whole of these unrighteous transactions. A more barefaced attempt to extort money under false pretences is surely not on record. Notwithstanding the injustice of the demand, it would appear that the wealthier proprietors were willing to make a commutation. In this, however, they experienced some difficulty, owing to their not being able to obtain the written assent of the smaller owners for the payment of their proportionate share of the amount demanded.

A letter from Richard Towneley, Edward Rausthorn, and others, states that,—“Through the fantastical persuasion of the vulgar sorte, that handes set to an instrument will bind them to they know not what inconveniences, they are enforced to rest only on promises: now in respect the vulgar sorte is knowne to be variable, and may alter from this second resolution; least the peevishness of some few should disadvantage or discredit our undertaking; we are of opinion that this, by Mr. Auditor's and your good meanes made known to the privy council, will worke such effect, yt according to ye proverbe, ‘The fryers shall not be beaten for the nunnes fault.’” Dr. Whitaker, in his usual supercilious and disdainful manner when speaking of the humbler classes, thus comments on the circumstances referred to in the above letter:—

(*d*) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 209.

"The superior proprietors were evidently aware of their own danger and willing to compound for their estates upon any reasonable terms; but had to encounter that levity, selfishness, and obstinacy in the lower orders, which, as long as human nature is the same, will encumber and embitter all public concerns in which they have any part."

But what were the terms that could be considered as *reasonable*, when, according to the Doctor's own showing, the whole proceedings, from their beginning to their termination, were fraught with the grossest injustice? And surely a better reason to justify the conduct of the malcontents might have suggested itself to the mind of the learned historian.

Viewing the matter dispassionately, it appears to us that the smaller copyholders based their refusal on stronger grounds than that of the mere paltry objection to set their hands to an instrument not knowing what inconveniences might result therefrom. It is more than probable that a sturdy independence prompted their conduct in the refusal, and that they evinced more of the spirit of English freemen than their wealthier neighbours, in resisting what Dr. Whitaker himself describes as "an act of oppression," "part of a general scheme," carried on in different parts of the country, "for extorting money from the tenants of the Crown, whose titles were not perfectly secure," in order to relieve the poverty, and replenish the exhausted exchequer of the King. It may be said that the letter of Towneley and Rausthorn (quoted above) does not bear out this view of the case. But to call that letter by the mildest name, it is, on the face of it, a snivelling epistle, and is apt to awaken the suspicion that the writers themselves were not unwilling to evade payment, provided they could edge out of the difficulty blameless. The "vulgar sorte," as the humbler owners are therein termed with unnecessary iteration, were deemed to be a convenient stepping-stone by which to escape from a sea of trouble into a haven of safety, and for this purpose they seem to have been used for the time being.

The upshot of the dispute was, that in the 7 James I. an act was passed, entitled "An Act for the perfect creation and confirmation of certain copyhold land in the honor, castle, manor, and lordship of Clitheroe." From some cause or other not perfectly clear, this act seems to have been afterwards superseded, as will presently appear. The sum at first arranged to be paid for the settlement and confirmation of the titles was twelve years' ancient rent, amounting in the whole to £3763. The amount contributed by the Rossendale copyholders, as their share, was £1574 4s. od. This was paid in three instalments of £524 14s. 8d. each (equal to four years' rent), the payments being made on the 15th February, 1608; the 23rd May, 1609; and the 14th November, 1609, respectively. (e). The claim was afterwards increased to forty years' rent; one half on the decrees passing the Duchy Court, and the other within a month after the confirmation by Act of Parliament. The first instalment was paid during the reign of James I., but the other portion remained unpaid till about the year 1650. These, with other interesting facts, are set forth in the following extract from one of the Assheton Papers (f) written after the Restoration.

The Copyholders "came to composition with his Majesty's Commissioners, and agreed to pay for confirmation and settlement thereof forty years' copyhold rent; the one moiety upon passing Decrees for that purpose in the Court of Duchy Chamber, and the other moiety within one month after the same should be confirmed by Act of Parliament.

"Decrees of all the several manors and places so compounded for were passed, and the first moiety of the composition money paid in King James's time. And in the sixteenth year of the late King Charles, a Bill for confirmation thereof passed both the Houses of Parliament: but, through the distractions then growing, was prevented of being perfected by the royal assent.

(e) See Appendix for a complete List of the Copyholders, with the amount of their several rents.

(f) Cited by Whitaker, third edition, p. 520.

"The said late King Charles, in the fifth year of his reign, granted, by letters patent, the second moiety of the said Composition Money, remaining in the Copyholders' hands, to the Navy and Tower Creditors, towards satisfaction of certain debts contracted by Sir Allen Apsley in victualling the Navy and Tower; who, in the year 1650, obtained from the pretended Parliament, then sitting, an Act to confirm to the said Copyholders their customs and improvements according to the said Compositions and Decrees, and to compel them to pay the remaining moiety of Composition Money to the said Creditors, with a *nomine pænæ* of £5 *per diem* upon default of payment after the first of September next following.

"Several of the Copyholders failed in providing their money, which caused their deficiency of payment according to the Act. But the *nomine pænæ* being great, and the Creditors' severe in levying it, accordingly to the power given them, those that were careful of preserving their estates, and preventing further damage, procured and paid the whole moiety together with a great overplus, amounting to £5,833 in all, for satisfaction of the said moiety and *nomine pænæ* forfeited, and so freed themselves and many others, who are still behind with their due proportionable parts, and yet have no security for confirmation of their customs and estates.

"All which considered, the said Copyholders having long since, as aforesaid, paid their whole composition to the king's use, do humbly pray the said Decrees and their Customes may be confirmed according to their Contract by the Parliament. And that power may be given to certain Commissioners to leavy the moneys in arrear, and reimburse to those that have laid out above their proportions so much as shall reduce the payments and account to an equality and due proportion, according to a Bill prepared for that purpose."

An Act of Confirmation was passed accordingly, "and on this foundation," remarks Dr. Whitaker, "rest all the titles to wapon-take, or copyhold lands of the new tenure in Blackburnshire. By

the same Act, the forests were attached to the adjoining manors, as *ex. gr.* Trawden to Colne, Pendle to Ightenhill, and Rossendale with Accrington to the manor of Accrington-vetus. These two last-mentioned forests constitute what is called Accrington Newhold."



BOOK FOURTH.



CHAPTER I.

"Worthy men all, and of good standing."

"'Tis opportune to look back upon old times,
and contemplate our forefathers."—SIR THOMAS BROWNE.

"The Reeve was a slendre colerick man ;
His beard was shav'd as nigh as ever he can ;
His hair was by his eares round yshorn ;
His top was docked like a priest beforne.
Full longe were his legges and full lean,
Ylike a staff, there was no calf yseen.
Well could he keep a garner and a bin,
There was no auditor could on him win.
There n'as bailiff, ne herd, ne other hine
That he ne knew his sleight, and his covine ;
They were a-dread of him, as of the death.
He had his wonning fair upon a heath,
With greene trees yshadowed was his place."—CHAUCER.

AS time pursues its onward course, and the manners and customs of society undergo change, new officers are called into existence to suit the altered conditions of men and property ; while dignitaries of ancient note, who were once considered to be, as no doubt they really were, indispensable for the due administration of the affairs of the times, gradually withdraw from our sight, to exist only by name in the archives of the past. Not only do offices, once important, become in the lapse of time altogether

obsolete, but the duties of some of those which still continue to exist, change, or are greatly modified by the fleeting manners of each succeeding age. These remarks are specially applicable to the office of the Greave, Greave, or Reeve; (a) an important functionary here in days of yore, and wielding a considerable share of authority within his jurisdiction. The office is one of great antiquity, dating its origin far back into Saxon times.

Before the introduction of the Magistracy into the district; when Guardians of the poor, as we now understand the term, had no existence therein; and when Local Boards and Town Councils were unknown, Rossendale was governed by one of these officers, who bore the title of "Greave of the Forest."

The duties of the Greave were of the most onerous and responsible kind; but they also descended to and embraced matters the most trivial and unimportant. Nothing seems to have been too weighty for him to undertake, nothing too insignificant to claim his attention. He was the Taxing Officer and "Bang-Beggar" of the district. At one time we find him closely engaged in tracking the footsteps of some notorious criminal, or in collecting evidence for his prosecution; at another he is relieving the necessities of a poor half-starved tramp on his way to Yorkshire, or it might be to Liverpool, in the opposite direction. Now he is taking measures to ascertain the number, and prepare a return accordingly, of all the able-bodied men within the Forest, capable of serving "the King His Majesty in his most just and holy wars;" and again he is giving instructions for the repair of the Stocks at Crawshawbooth or Bacup, or of the Guide Post at Four-Lane-Ends. One day he is superintending the erection of a "Dungeon" at one of the

(a) "*Præpositus Villæ* is sometimes used for the head or chief officer of the king in a town, manor, or village, or a Reeve."—Note by John Harland, F.S.A., in "Manchester Court Leet Records," p. 67. Jacob in his Law Dic. ed. 1743, spells it "Reve," and thus defines it: "More especially met with in the West of England, signifies the bailiff of a manor, and hence comes the word *shire-reve*, or sheriff."

villages; on another he is ordering a staff or truncheon for the village Constable.

The Precepts of the High Constable were all addressed to the Greave, who levied the rates, and was responsible for the proportionate share required to be contributed by the Forest of Rossendale for the repair of Lancaster Castle, the Preston House of Correction, the Bridges of the Hundred, the relief of the prisoners in the Marshalsea, maintaining the Watch, and other County expenses.

The fulfilment of the office of Greave, which was by no means a sinecure, seems not to have been optional. The person nominated was bound to serve either personally or by deputy. But though members of the best families of the district were nominally the Greaves of the Forest, they seldom performed the drudgery of the office. The plan of hiring a deputy, and sometimes two, was generally resorted to; and it frequently happened that one person discharged the duties for several consecutive years, being hired by different Greaves in succession. The Greave was nominated by the principal landowners in the locality, his appointment taking place at the Halmot Court, or Court Baron, of the lord of the Manor or Honor, held on Michaelmas Day in each year, according to the 29th clause of "The Customs of the Copyhold of the Honor of Clitheroe," which is as follows:—

"That the homage at every Michaelmas Court ought to present and find a Greve for the said Forest or Manor, who is not to enter into his office until the Michaelmas Court next after, and that a deputy Greve ought to be elected by the Major vote of the tenants in Open Court for the execution of that Office, and sworn accordingly."

The accounts of the Greave, which varied in amount from £20 to £600 in different years, were presented to a Vestry Meeting held annually in the Parochial Chapel, Newchurch, when they were audited, passed, and signed or certified by a number of the inhabitants present, the Incumbent's signature being usually the first appended thereto.

Dr. Whitaker observes (*b*) that the vaccaries or large upland pasture farms within the Lancashire Forests were under the superintendence of two Master Foresters, one for Blackburnshire, and the other for Bowland; and the former had under him an inferior keeper in each, of which that of Rossendale inhabited the chamber of the Forest, and had the direction of other still inferior officers, termed graves or reeves of the Forest. This description would seem to imply a less onerous and important position than is assumed for the Greave; but he was really the Acting Officer "in charge;" the Constables and Bailiffs being responsible to him; and in earlier times when the facilities for intercourse were fewer and more costly, the existence of higher authorities, to the rural mind, was more mythical than real. Hence, when the Greave chanced to be of a tyrannical disposition—

"They were a-dread of him as of the death."

Baines, in his history of the County, states that Rossendale is governed by a Constable called "The Greave of the Forest," who is nominated by the principal landowners; and that the expenses of this Officer are borne by four principal householders in each Booth in rotation, a practice which has prevailed from 1557. (*c*)

The Historian is surely at fault here. To have saddled any four principal householders with the expenses of the Greave, would certainly have been a summary and unjust proceeding. The fact is, that, on receiving a Precept or Order from the High Constable for the payment of a certain amount, the Greave immediately laid a rate, or "Greave lay," (*d*) as it was called, over the district, being generally careful that the amount to be collected exceeded the sum of the Precept. When a deficiency occurred

(*b*) Hist. Whalley, third edition, p. 206.

(*c*) Hist. Lancashire, vol. iii. p. 276.

(*d*) "The derivation of the word 'lay' or 'ley' seems doubtful. In the expression 'to lay a lay' may be found one origin, and the French word *ley*, law, suggests another, a rate made by law."—Note by John Harland, F.S.A., in "Manchester Court Leet Records," p. 124.

in any one year, as was sometimes the case, this was disbursed from the receipts of the Greave next ensuing. If it is meant that the salary or remuneration of the Greave was contributed by four of the principal householders, that may have been the case, though we know of nothing to justify such a conclusion. It is probable that the Greaves being usually persons of property in the district, served their term of office free of charge, and that only the hired or deputy Officers were paid, and those by the nominal Greave for the time being.

Of late years this Officer's duties have been much circumscribed, being limited to a periodical attendance at the Halmot Court, and the summoning of Juries for the transaction of business appertaining thereto. This Court for the Old-hold and New-hold of the Manor of Accrington, of which Rossendale now forms part, is held at the Court House in Haslingden twice every year, in the months of April and October, and its authority extends over all property within the Manor, held under what is technically called "copy of Court roll."

The Reeve who is introduced by Chaucer as one of the Pilgrims in the "Canterbury Tales," has many points in common with the Greave or Reeve of Rossendale Forest; though they differ in some essential particulars; the Reeve of Chaucer being a permanent Officer, and in this respect resembling the Steward of the Manor of the present day.

Among a number of old documents, which, by the kindness of a friend, were placed in my hands, I have discovered a list of persons who held the Office of Greave of the Forest of Rossendale from A.D. 1559, the 2d year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, down to A.D. 1726.

Being desirous to complete the list, I made application to Dixon Robinson, Esq., of Clitheroe Castle, Steward of the Honor, who, in response to my request, in the kindest manner, continued the names to 1811, since which time there are no appointments of Greaves appearing on the Court Rolls. From another and equally

trustworthy source, I am enabled to add a few more names, bringing down the list of Officers to the year 1818.

This list is not to be viewed as a mere dry catalogue of names to which little or no interest is attached. It is in truth an enumeration of the oldest families of the district for a period of over three hundred years, and as such is of great historical value.

However disinclined we may be to render undue homage to the accidental and adventitious circumstances of long descent, we are all ready to allow that it is at least desirable, and in a sense honourable, to be able to trace our ancestors back through the centuries which have elapsed, to recount their virtues, and their heroic deeds, and to unravel the intricacies of the times in which their lot was cast.

What is true of the individual, is also true in respect to the locality. Few among us but are proud to connect the occurrences of the particular district in which we feel an interest, with the more important historical events and personages of our common country.

No city, or town, or district can be said to possess a history until the events which have occurred therein are recorded, and the actors in its various scenes identified and described. Just as that man is supposed to be without ancestors who is unable to trace his descent through a series of generations.

The most enchanting landscape which the painter can portray upon his canvas lacks one of its greatest charms until it is made to embrace within its ample area an image bearing the human form. To supply this is, as it were, to infuse a living soul into the otherwise inanimate clay.

This is precisely the part which the present list of Greaves fulfils in respect to Rossendale. They are the link which, more than any other, connects the district with past events.

Without this link we know, of course, that Rossendale had an existence in the long past; that its hills were as high, and its air as bracing as at the present day. But there is a feeling of vagueness in the mind when we try to summon up bygone circumstances,

that is not dispelled until we can associate therewith the presence of our own species.

In the person of its Greaves, we may be said to have the pedigree of the Forest of Rossendale. And how much of real interest we feel in being able to point to those of them who were contemporaneous with the Virgin Queen, and the galaxy of gifted minds which adorned her court, and shed an undying radiance around the years of her reign ; with Burleigh, her judicious adviser ; and with the accomplished Essex, her unfortunate favourite. Contemporary, too, with Lord Bacon,

"The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind."

and with the chivalrous Sidney, "the very diamond of her Majesty's Court." Administrators of the affairs of the Forest when Sir Francis Drake was "singeing the Spanish monarch's beard ;" and when Raleigh, patriot, statesman, and philosopher, was pining in his lone dungeon in the Tower. When Spenser, the sweetest of poets, was singing of the heavenly Una and her milk-white lamb ;^(e) and when Shakespeare was weaving the immortal creations of his genius. Witnesses, too, of, and doubtless participators in, the excitement of the times consequent on the hourly-expected arrival of the great Spanish Armada, which was to uproot Protestantism from the land, and snuff out the candle of English liberty ; who lighted the beacon signals which summoned the country to arms ; and who shared in the rejoicings which followed the discomfiture of the invading hosts.

(e) It will not be considered out of place here to refer to the fact, established on good authority, that Edmund Spenser was of the Spensers of Hurstwood, near Burnley, and that he lived there for some time. Such being the case, it is not unlikely that the name, and probably the district of Rossendale, would be familiar to the poet. Whether this latter conjecture be true or not, it is interesting to be able to connect the author of the "Fairy Queen" with our next door neighbours at the foot of Pendle Hill. *Vide* "Spenser and his Poetry," by Geo. L. Craik, M.A.; also a Paper by the late T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S., Burnley, read before the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society.

In the person of its Greave, Rossendale had a veritable existence in the days of Guy Fawkes and the "Gunpowder Plot;" and in all likelihood the bells of the New Church, by order of the Greave, swelled the rejoicings of the people on the discovery of the "hellish conspiracy."

I know not how it may be with others, but I confess to experiencing a feeling akin to reverential awe, in reading over the names of those of the district who flourished in the troublous times of the great Revolution in the days of Charles I., that poor, deluded, and unfortunate monarch, the victim of his own and his father's belief in the "divine right of kings"—their right to do wrong—to disabuse his mind of which false notion the harshest of arguments was used in the end.

How much it is to be regretted that no local chronicler took the pains to register the events of the time, as they affected the district in which we live; so that we might now have known whether the inhabitants as a whole continued loyal to their unfortunate sovereign; or whether, preferring to obey the laws of their country, rather than yield an unquestioning obedience to the hallucinations of royalty, they approved of the rough, but effectual measures adopted by Cromwell and his compatriots for the purification of the state.

But, indeed, there can be little doubt that during the civil war the inhabitants of Rossendale were, as a rule, favourable to the Parliament, and opposed to the king. In the following account, by an eye-witness, of a skirmish which took place at Leigh and Loaton Common, between the Earl of Derby's troops and the country people, the writer refers to the "sturdy churls" of the two Forests—Pendle and Rossendale, and the part which they bore in strife:—

"The last Sabbath, as we were going towards the church, a post rode through the country informing us that the earl's troops were coming towards Chowbent; whereupon the country people rose, and before one of the clock on that day we had gathered together 3000 horse and foot, encountering them at Chowbent aforesaid,

and beating them back to Leigh, killed some, and wounded many ; where yot would wonder to have seen the forwardness of the young youths, farmers' sons. . . . The nailors of Chowbent, instead of making nails, have busied themselves in making bills and battle-axes ; and also this week the other part of the country meet, and not only intend to stand upon their guard, but to disarm all the Papists and malignants within their precincts, and to send them prisoners to Manchester, to keep house with Sir Cecil Trafford, who is there a prisoner. The men of Blackburn, Padiham, Burnley, Clitheroe, and Colne, and those sturdy churls in the two forests of Pendle and Rossendale, have raised their spirits, and are resolved to fight it out rather than their beef and fat bacon shall be taken from them." (f)

The interest which we feel in perusing the names of the Greaves does not abate during the years of the Protectorate, and after the Restoration, down through the reign of Charles II. and his successor, James II., to the next Revolution, and the enthronement of the third William ; and, after the latter, to the days of the "Good Queen Anne," and the victories of the illustrious Marlborough.

This interest increases rather than otherwise during the time of the two rebellions of the Stuarts in the 18th century, and when the first and second Georges occupied the throne ; because, in addition to the names of the Greaves, we possess some local MS. records of the times, to which reference will be made.

The appointment of Greave of the Forest from any particular Booth recurred every 17 years. At first the interval was 18 years, but that was due to the circumstance that during the earlier period the nomination of a Greave was omitted for some one year. There were really twenty Booths in the Forest under the jurisdiction of the Lord of the Honor, in addition to Brandwood Higher and Lower Ends which belonged to the Abbots of Whalley Abbey ; but it would appear that the three Wolfendens, viz : Wolfenden

Booth, Wolfenden in Higher Booths and Wolfenden in Newchurch, were associated together in the appointment. In the same way Henheads was probably allied with Crawshawbooth, and Yate and Pickup Bank with Hoddlesden.

The order in which the different Booths stood for the appointment of Greaves was as follows :—Bacup, Dunnockshaw, Tunstead, Loveclough, Wolfenden (including Wolfenden in Higher Booths and Wolfenden in Newchurch), Goodshaw, Deadwenclough, Crawshawbooth (with Henheads), Rawtenstall, Constablelee, Oakenheadwood, Musbury, Newhallhey, Lenches and Hall Carr, Cowpe, Hoddlesden (with Yate and Pickup Bank), and Gamble-side.

In the list of Greaves given below, the place or Booth out of which the appointment was made is not invariably stated after the name of the person appointed ; but by noting the consecutive order in which the Booths appear, this can always be readily determined.

It is worthy of remark that in the long roll of Greaves, we find all the old names which exist amongst us at present. We have the Whitakers, the Ashworths, the Ormerods, the Haworths, the Nuttalls, the Lords, the Rostrons, and the Holts in abundance, along with others equally familiar ; and it is a remarkable fact that in no instance do we find a name which has not at this time its representative in the district, or its immediate neighbourhood.

The list will be of assistance to the genealogical student, in supplying or suggesting a connecting link that will enable him the more satisfactorily to pursue his researches in tracing the descent of any particular line. To most of the names the place of residence of the person is also attached ; and it is of interest to note that in very many instances, descendents bearing the same name inhabit the particular locality of their forefathers to this day. The ownership of property may also to some extent be traced from the particulars which are given.

"A LIST OF YE GRAVES WITHIN THE FOREST OF
ROSSENDALE FROM YE 2^D YEARE OF YE RAIGNE
OF QUEEN ELIZABETH, UNTIL THIS PRESENT
YEARE, 1726," AND CONTINUED TO 1818.

Note, yt every of ye said Graves was found and presented at Michelmas,
in ye said yeares of our Lord, and entred their office ye yeare following at
Michelmas, and not in ye yeare as it is figured.

| Anno Dom. | Anno Reg. | ELIZABETH. |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| 1559 | 2 | James Whittaker of Broadclough, Bacop. |
| 1560 | 3 | The Tenants of Primrose Field. |
| 1561 | 4 | Henry Kershaw of Tunstedd. |
| 1562 | 5 | George Deardwen of Loveclough. |
| 1563 | 6 | Edmund Taylor of Wolfenden Booth. |
| 1564 | 7 | George Hargreaves of Goodshaw. |
| 1565 | 8 | No Grave found. |
| 1566 | 9 | John Nuttall of Dedwen Clough. |
| 1567 | 10 | Dennis Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1568 | 11 | Lawrence Rawstorne, Gent. |
| 1569 | 12 | Henry Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1570 | 13 | Richard Hey of Oakenheadwood. |
| 1571 | 14 | Christopher Nuttall of Newhall-hey. |
| 1572 | 15 | Thomas Duckworth of Musbury. |
| 1573 | 16 | James Holt of Lenches. |
| 1574 | 17 | Arthur Ashworth of Cowpe. |
| 1575 | 18 | Thomas Maudsley of Piccop banke. |
| 1576 | 19 | John Ormerod, senior, of Gambelside. |
| 1577 | 20 | Robert Lord of Bacop. |
| 1578 | 21 | John Townley, Esq., for his Land called Primrose Syke, <i>cum auxilio terrard</i> Bernard Townley. |
| 1579 | 22 | Thomas Law of Tunstedd. |
| 1580 | 23 | William Birtwistle of Loveclough. |
| 1580 | 23 | James Ashworth, of Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1581 | 24 | No Grave found. An order made concerning Clugh fold. |

| Anno Dom. | Anno Reg. | |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 1582 | 25 | Adam Bridge of Dedwencloough. |
| 1583 | 26 | James Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1584 | 27 | Richard Ormerod of Wolfenden, for Rawtenstall. |
| 1585 | 28 | George Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1586 | 29 | Henry Haworth of Oakenheadwood. |
| 1587 | 30 | George Haworth of Musbury. |
| 1588 | 31 | Henry Romsbotham, junior, of Newhallhey. |
| 1589 | 32 | Richard Ormerod of Lenches. |
| 1590 | 33 | Ralph Nuttall of Cowpe. |
| 1591 | 34 | Robert Holden of Piccop-banke. |
| 1592 | 35 | James Birtwistle of Gambelside. |
| 1593 | 36 | No grave found. |
| 1594 | 37 | John Lord, <i>aliter</i> Bolton of Bacop. |
| 1595 | 38 | John Townley, <i>ad auxilio terrard</i> John Townley. |
| 1596 | 39 | John Pilling of Tunsted. |
| 1597 | 40 | John Holt of Loveclough. |
| 1597 | 40 | Rich. Ormerod of Lenches, for Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1598 | 41 | No Grave found. |
| 1599 | 42 | Margrett Hargreaves of Goodshaw, and George Haworth and Jennet, his wife, for their lands in Goodshaw. |
| 1600 | 43 | William Heaton of Dedwencloough. |
| 1601 | 44 | George Ormerod of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1602 | 45 | James Piccop of Waine yate. |

JAMES I.

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| 1603 | 1 | Edward Rawstorne, Esq., for Constablee. |
| 1604 | 2 | Lawrence Haworth of Pikelaw. |
| 1605 | 3 | Edmund Taylor of Musbury. |
| 1606 | 4 | Thomas Crawshaw of Newhallhey. |
| 1607 | 5 | John Ashworth of Lenches. |
| 1608 | 6 | James Yate of Hoddelsden. |
| 1609 | 7 | George Ormerod of Wolfenden. |

| Anno Dqm. | Anno Reg. | |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 1610 | 8 | John Ormerod of Gambelside. |
| 1611 | 9 | No Grave found. |
| 1612 | 10 | John Tattersall, <i>alit.</i> Tino of Bacop. |
| 1613 | 11 | John Tattersall of Tunstedd. |
| 1614 | 12 | Richard Hey of Loveclough. |
| 1615 | 13 | Edward Rawstorne of Lumme. (<i>g</i>) |
| 1616 | 14 | John Haworth of Goodshaw. |
| 1617 | 15 | James Tattersall of Dedwencloough. |
| 1618 | 16 | John Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1619 | 17 | Edward Rawstorne, Esq. |
| 1620 | 18 | John Ashworth of Constablee. |
| 1621 | 19 | George Romsbotham of Okenheadwood. |
| 1622 | 20 | Ralph Haworth of Musbury, Junior. |
| 1623 | 21 | Charles Romsbotham of Newhallhey. |
| 1624 | 22 | John Holt of Lenches. |

CHARLES I.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| 1625 | 1 | Roger Holt of Scoute. |
| 1626 | 2 | Lawrence Haworth of Hoddelsden. |
| 1627 | 3 | Oliver Ormerod of Gambelside. |
| 1628 | 4 | William Ormerod for Bacop. |
| 1629 | 5 | Richard Townley, Esq. |
| 1630 | 6 | Oliver Ormerod of Lenches, for Tunstead. |
| 1631 | 7 | George Deardwen of Loveclough. |
| 1632 | 8 | Lawrence Taylor of Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1633 | 9 | George Hargreaves of Goodshaw. |
| 1634 | 10 | William Horrox of Dedwencloough. |
| 1635 | 11 | John Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1636 | 12 | Dennis Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1637 | 13 | Edward Rawstone, Esq. |

(*g*) Lumm Hall, Edenfield, the seat of Adam Rawsthorne (temp. Ed. IV.)
and his descendants for nearly 200 years.

Anno Anno
Dom. Reg.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| 1638 | 14 | Peter Rawstone, Gent., and Trigg Land to Contrib., in Okenheadwood. |
| 1639 | 15 | Thomas Anderton, Gent. |
| 1640 | 16 | John Nuttall, Senr., Gent., and ye rest of yt Land to Contrib. |
| 1641 | 17 | James Holt of Lenches. |
| 1642 | 18 | John Ormerod of Croftehall. |
| 1643 | 19 | None found. |
| 1644 | 20 | James Holden of Piccop banke. |
| 1645 | 21 | James Lord, <i>alit.</i> Jone ames. |
| 1646 | 22 | John Townley of Hurstwood. |
| 1647 | 23 | Richard Nuttall, and Anthony, his son. |
| 1648 | 24 | William Birtwhistle. |

THE COMMONWEALTH AND PROTECTORATE.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| 1649 | 1 | James Ashworth of Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1650 | 2 | Richard Birtwistle of Goodshaw. |
| 1651 | 3 | John Bridge of Dedwencloough. |
| 1652 | 4 | John Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1653 | 5 | Charles Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1654 | 6 | Henry Heape of Rawtenstall. |
| 1655 | 7 | Hen. Haworth of Crawshawbooth, for Oakenhead- wood. |
| 1656 | 8 | Lawrence Rawstorne, Esq., for Musbury. |
| 1657 | 9 | Henry Rygley, Esq., for Newhallhey. |
| 1658 | 10 | Thomas Holt of Lenches. |
| 1659 | 11 | Thomas Haworth of Scoute. |

CHARLES II.

| | | |
|------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1660 | 1 | Thomas Fishe of Piccop banke. |
| 1661 | 2 | Peter Ormerod of Gambelside. |
| 1662 | 3 | James Lord Goffe of Bacop. |

Forest of Rossendale.

101

| Anno Dom. | Anno Reg. | |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 1663 | 4 | Rich. Townley, Esq., for Dunnockshaw. |
| 1664 | 5 | John Pilling of Tunstead. |
| 1665 | 6 | George Holt of Loveclough. |
| 1666 | 7 | Robt. Dewrst for Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1667 | 8 | Henry Hargreaves of Goodshaw. |
| 1668 | 9 | John Broughton of Roden, for Deadwencloough. |
| 1669 | 10 | George Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1670 | 11 | Adam Holden of Stubylee, for Constablee. |
| 1671 | 12 | James Hey of Waine yate. |
| 1672 | 13 | Henry Romsbotham of Oakenheadwood. |
| 1673 | 14 | Hugh Taylor of Musbury. |
| 1674 | 15 | Josuah Nuttall of Newhallhey. |
| 1675 | 16 | John Ashworth of Lenches. |
| 1676 | 17 | James Maddock of Cowpe. |
| 1677 | 18 | Robert Yate of Woodhead. |
| 1678 | 19 | Robt. Ashworth of Gambleside. |
| 1679 | 20 | John Whittaker of Baccop. |
| 1680 | 21 | John Townley, Esq., of Hurstwood, for Dunnockshaw. |
| 1681 | 22 | John Tattersall of Tunstead. |
| 1682 | 23 | Richard Holt of Loveclough. |
| 1683 | 24 | Tho. Bradshaw, Gent., for Wolfendenbooth. |
| 1684 | 25 | Pet. Ormerod of Gambleside, for Goodshaw. |

JAMES II.

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| 1685 | 1 | Alexander Haworth of Dedwencloough. |
| 1686 | 2 | Myles Lonsdale, for ye Lands of Jam. Haworth of Crawshawbooth. |
| 1687 | 3 | George Deardwen of Constablee. |
| 1688 | 4 | The Heirs of John Hey for Rawtenstall. |

WILLIAM III.

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 1689 | 1 | The Heirs of Joseph Sharples of Blackborne, for Oakenhead-wood. |
|------|---|--|

| Anno Dom. | Anno Reg. | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| 1690 | 2 | John Cowpe of Holme, for Musbury. |
| 1691 | 3 | Robert Haworth for Newhallhey. |
| 1692 | 4 | John Holt of Lenches. |
| 1693 | 5 | Oliv. Ormerod of Wolfenden, for his Lands in Cowpe. |
| 1694 | 6 | Rich. Rothwell of Woodhead. |
| 1695 | 7 | Peter Ormerod of Gamblesyde. |
| 1696 | 8 | The Heirs of Richard Heape of Bacop. |
| 1697 | 9 | Rich. Townley of Townley, Esq., for Dunnockshaw. |
| 1698 | 10 | Rich. Ormerod of Tunstead. |
| 1699 | 11 | George Deardwen of Loveclough. |
| 1700 | 12 | Thos. Bradshaw, Gent., for Wolfenden (<i>h</i>). |
| 1701 | 13 | Hen. Hargreaves for Goodshaw. |

ANNE.

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 1702 | 1 | John Nuttall, Gent., for Dedwenclough. |
| 1703 | 2 | Oliver Ormerod for Crawshawbooth. |
| 1704 | 3 | Henry Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1705 | 4 | John Ashworth of Rawtenstall. |
| 1706 | 5 | Oliver Ormerod of Okenheadwood. |
| 1707 | 6 | John Duckworth for Musbury. |
| 1708 | 7 | Sir Willoghby Hickman for Newhallhey. |
| 1709 | 8 | John Hoult for Lenches. |

(*h*) I have in my possession an original order, as follows—

To ye Churchwardens and Overseers of ye Poor of yt part of
Rosendale belonging to New Church, these—

Whereas, complaint hath been made unto me by James Piccopp, yt his wife being in a very sad condicon, and he not able to maintain her and family, she having but ye sum of ninepence pr. week allowed, as I am informed; these are therefore in his Majesties name, to command you and every of you, yt, immediately upon sight hereof you add threepence pr. week more, yt being twelvecence pr. week, or else shew cause to ye contrary before me, and you are to give him notice when you do appear. Given under my hand this 7th day of February, Ao. Dom. 1697.

THO. BRADSHAW.

| Anno Dom. | Anno Reg. | |
|--------------|--------------|---|
| 1710 | 9 | Jenit Hoyle of Cowpe, widow. |
| 1711 | 10 | Nicholas Rishton, Gent., for Hoddlesden. |
| 1712 | 11 | William Ormerod of Gambleside. |
| 1713 | 12 | John Houlden for Baccop. <i>Cum</i> contributors. |

GEORGE I.

| | | |
|------|----|--|
| 1714 | 1 | Katherine Townley for Dunnockshaw, <i>cum</i> contributors. |
| 1715 | 2 | Jo. Rishton Rt. of his wife for Tunstead, <i>cum</i> contributors. |
| 1716 | 3 | Joseph Townend for Loveclough, <i>cum</i> contributors. |
| 1717 | 4 | George Ormerod, Edgeside, for Wolfendenbooth, c. contributors. |
| 1718 | 5 | Jo. Holt, Loveclough, for Goodshaw, c. contributors. |
| 1719 | 6 | Oliver Ormerod of Wolfenden, for Dedwenclough, c. contributors. |
| 1720 | 7 | Jo. Haworth, Rakefoot, for Crawshawbooth, c. contributors. |
| 1721 | 8 | Henry Haworth, Junr., for Constablelee, c. contributors. |
| 1722 | 9 | James Lonsdale for Rawtenstall, c. contributors. |
| 1723 | 10 | James Lonsdale Oakenheadwood, c. contributors. |
| 1724 | 11 | John Holden for Musbury, c. contributors. |
| 1725 | 12 | James Townend for Newhallhey, c. contributors. |
| 1726 | 13 | John Holt of Brimrod, for Lenches. |

The extension of the list of names to 1811 is from the Court Rolls, and has been supplied by Dixon Robinson, Esq. of Clitheroe Castle.

GEORGE II.

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 1727 | 1 | James Piccoppe of Boothfold, for Coupe, c. contributors. |
|------|---|--|

Anno Dom.
Anno Reg.

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| 1728 | 2 | John Haworth of Piccop Bank, for Hodlesden, c. contributors. |
| 1729 | 3 | Peter Ormerod of Meadowhead, in Gambleside. |
| 1730 | 4 | John Whitaker, and John Lord. |
| 1731 | 5 | Richard Townley of Townley. |
| 1732 | 6 | Richard Pilling, and John Pilling. |
| 1733 | 7 | Henry Hargreaves of Broad Oak. |
| 1734 | 8 | James Rothwell. |
| 1735 | 9 | John Duckworth. |
| 1736 | 10 | Robert Haworth. |
| 1737 | 11 | John Rothwell of Green Haworth. |
| 1738 | 12 | John Hopkinson. |
| 1739 | 13 | The Heirs or Executors of Henry Lonsdale, deceased, to find a sufficient person to serve the office of Greave for their Estate at High Riley. |
| 1740 | 14 | The Heirs of Roger Kay, deceased. |
| 1741 | 15 | The Heirs of Roger Kay, deceased. |
| 1742 | 16 | Peter Ormerod of Newhall Hey. |
| 1743 | 17 | George Ashworth of Lenches. |
| 1744 | 18 | Richard Hargreaves, and Isaac Jackson, in respect of their Estate in Coupe. |
| 1745 | 19 | John Yate of Woodhead, in Hoddlesden. |
| 1746 | 20 | James Haworth of Gambleside. |
| 1747 | 21 | John Lord of Greensnook, in Bacup. |
| 1748 | 22 | Robert Sutcliffe, for Dunnockshaw. |
| 1749 | 23 | John Ramsbottom of Tunsted. |
| 1750 | 24 | Richard Holt of Loveclough. |
| 1751 | 25 | John Whitaker, of Boothfold, and John Ormerod of Edgeside. |
| 1752 | 26 | John Haworth of Goodshaw. |
| 1753 | 27 | Richard Eastwood of Cloughfold. |
| 1754 | 28 | James Haworth of Crawshaw Booth. |
| 1755 | 29 | Richard Dearden of Constablee. |

Anno Anno
Dom. Reg.

- 1756 30 James Lord of Boothfold.
1757 31 John Barns of Heightend, in Okenheadwood.
1758 32 John Rothwell of Musbury.
1759 33 James Haworth, for Newhallhey.

GEORGE III.

- 1760 1 Richard Spencer, or Martin Haworth, in respect of an
Estate at Lenchfold belonging to said Martin
Haworth.
1761 2 Peter Ormerod of Ormerod, in respect of his Estate
at Cowpe.
1762 3 John Rothwell.
1763 4 William Ormerod.
1764 5 John Lord of Broadclough.
1765 6 James Pilling of Dunnockshaw.
1766 7 John Taylor of Tunstead.
1767 8 Richard Holt of Loveclough.
1768 9 James Lord of Boothfold.
1769 10 Richard Hargreaves of Goodshaw.
1770 11 James Ashworth of Cloughfold.
1771 12 George Haworth, and James Pickop, both of Height-
side, and Ellen Haworth of Rakefoot, all in
Crawshawbooth, to find a proper person to serve.
1772 13 Henry Haworth, with his Bearer, to find a proper
person to serve.
1773 14 Edmund Whittaker, with his Bearers, &c.
1774 15 Margaret Wray, with her Bearers, &c.
1775 16 Lawrence Duckworth, with his Bearers, &c.
1776 17 Samuel Lord of Newhallhey, with his Bearers, &c.
1777 18 Henry Hoyle of Lenchfold, with his Bearers, &c.
1778 19 Henry Hoyle of Cowpe, with his Bearers, &c.
1779 20 John Eccles, with his Bearers, &c.
1780 21 John Ormerod of Gambleside, with his Bearers, &c.

Anno Dom.
Anno Reg.

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| 1781 | 22 | George Haworth of Wear, for Scar End, with his Bearers, &c. |
| 1782 | 23 | Lawrence Sutcliffe of New Laith, in Dunnockshaw. |
| 1783 | 24 | James and John Mitchell of Tunstead. |
| 1784 | 25 | Joshua Townsend of Love Clough. |
| 1785 | 26 | Lawrence and Richard Ormerod of Edgeside, within Wolfenden Booth. |
| 1786 | 27 | Abraham Taylor of Goodshaw. |
| 1787 | 28 | Richard Ormerod of Cloughfold. |
| 1788 | 29 | George Hargreaves of Rakefoot. |
| 1789 | 30 | Henry Haworth of Constablee. |
| 1790 | 31 | Abel Bridge of Meadowhead. |
| 1791 | 32 | John Kenyon of Pike Law. |
| 1792 | 33 | John Taylor of Torr End. |
| 1793 | 34 | John Haworth of Townsend fold. |
| 1794 | 35 | Edmund Lord of Ruglee (? Rough-lee.) |
| 1795 | 36 | Robert Ashworth of Cowpe. |
| 1796 | 37 | No Appointment. |
| 1797 | 38 | Miles Whitaker, and Lawrence Ashworth, of Gamble-side. |
| 1798 | 39 | John Lord of Bankside. |
| 1799 | 40 | Henry Butterworth of Dunnockshaw. |
| 1800 | 41 | John Pilling of Lower Tunstead. |
| 1801 | 42 | John Holt of Loveclough. |
| 1802 | 43 | Lawrence Ashworth of Edge Side. |
| 1803 | 44 | No Appointment. |
| 1804 | 45 | Henry Hoyle of Cloughfold. |
| 1805 | 46 | No Appointment. |
| 1806 | 47 | Thirstan Bradshaw of Lane, within Constablee. |
| 1807 | 48 | Thomas Cunliffe of Waingate, within Rawtenstall. |
| 1808 | 49 | Henry Rothwell of Oakenhead Wood. |
| 1809 | 50 | John Scholfield of Musbury Tur End. |
| 1810 | 51 | Henry Haworth of Newhallhey. |
| 1811 | 52 | Henry Haworth of Newhallhey. |

No appointment of Greaves appears on the Court Rolls after 1811. The following are supplied from another source.

Anno Anno
Dom. Reg.

- | | | |
|------|----|--|
| 1812 | 53 | Henry Hargreaves, Esq., of Newchurch, for Futherfold, in Cowpe. |
| 1813 | 54 | John Yates of Woodhead, in Hoddlesden. |
| 1814 | 55 | George Yates, and Henry Haworth, for Meadowhead in Gambleside, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Porter, of Bacup. |
| 1815 | 56 | Henry Haworth, and George Yates, for the late George Ormerod of Greensnook, Bacup. |
| 1816 | 57 | Henry Butterworth, Henry Pollard, and James Taylor, deputies for Newheath estate, in Dunnockshaw. |
| 1817 | 58 | —Turner, Slack, estate at Tunstead. |
| 1818 | 59 | John Holt, Esq., of Loveclough. |



CHAPTER II.

" . . . Thus runs the bill."

—SHAKESPEARE ("KING HENRY V.")

"Fetch forth the stocks !

As I have life and honour, there shall he sit till noon."

—SHAKESPEARE ("KING LEAR.")

The "Accounts" of its Greaves are among the most valuable records which we possess of the past History of the Forest of Rossendale. (a) Some of these are given in considerable detail, while others are, unfortunately, so abridged, as to convey but meagre information. It is to be regretted that the volume in which they are contained dates no farther back than the year 1691. The previous volumes, could they be recovered, would constitute a treasure over which the antiquary might pore with unmixed delight. It is, however, but too probable that these have long since perished. By their light, much that is obscure in the early history of Rossendale would have been elucidated and explained, and circumstances now altogether unknown, revealed.

Records having reference to the past events of the Forest are not so plentiful that we can afford to be deprived of even the least important, much less those of its chief officer. But to repine about that which is altogether irremediable, is a thankless and barren exercise. It is a fortunate circumstance, and one on which there is room for congratulation, that so much as does ~~remain~~ ~~has~~ been preserved. Let us proceed to glance at their ~~various contents~~.

~~As the volume containing~~ the Accounts of the Greave of the Forest from ~~1691 to 1711 is~~ still preserved at Newchurch.

In order to convey a clear idea of these yearly accounts, and also of the manner in which they were kept by the several officers in succession, I have transcribed the total Receipts and Disbursements of two complete years as they appear in the Greaves' Book, with the names of the leading parishoners who certified and passed the several items, appended thereto.

THE ACCOUNTS OF ROBERT WHITTAKER, GREAVE OF
THE FORREST OF ROSSENDALE, FOR JON. HEAPE OF
BACCOPE, FOR YE YEARE OF OUR LORD 1698. (b)

Received, as it doth appear by twoo several Assessments, ye
sum of £40 0 6

Disbursed as followeth :—

| | |
|--|---------|
| <i>Imprimis</i> , for ye repaire of Althem Bridge and Sike side | |
| Bridge, ye sum of | £1 19 5 |
| Item for ye house of Correction, | 0 10 10 |
| It. for ye poore prsonrs at Lancaster, | 0 7 4 |
| It. for ye repeire of Rybble bridge And Can bridge, ye sum of | 3 17 6 |
| Carry forward, | £6 15 1 |

(b) The following excerpts, giving an explanation of the taxation of the period, are from "A True and Faithful Copy of the various Rates for the County Palatine of Lancaster, from an Original Manuscript written for the use of John Yates, Esqr., Treasurer of the said County, May 16th, 1716," inserted in Gregson's portfolio of Fragments relative to the History and Antiquities of the County Palatine and Duchy of Lancaster :—

"There be six several kinds of Taxes and Layes used within the County of Lancaster viz :—I. The SUBSIDY.—II. The FIFTEENTH.—III. The OXLEY.—IV. The MAIMED LAY.—V. The PRISONERS' LAY.—VI. The SOLDIERS' LAY, or COUNTY LAY.

"The *Subsidy* is only used when a Subsidy is granted to the King's Majesty by Act of Parliament.

"The *Fifteenth* is used when a fifteenth or tenth is granted to the King's Majesty by Act of Parliament.

"The *Oxley* is used for provision of oxen for the King's Majesty's household, according to a composition heretofore made by the said county.

| | | |
|--|------------------|----------|
| | Brought forward, | £6 15 1 |
| It. for ye poore prsnrs in ye Marshallsee, | 0 2 2 | |
| It. for ye repeire of Waterfoot bridge, | 1 6 2 | |
| It. for ye repeire of Little Harwood Bridge and Rillfooth Bridge, ye sum, | 6 3 0 | |
| It. for ye poore prsnrs at Lanr. And Master of ye house of Correction, | 1 6 2 | |
| It. for ye poore prsnrs at Lanr. | 0 9 0 | |
| It. charges of passengers, ye sum of.. .. . | 0 1 10 | |
| It. to ye Justice Clarke for ye return of Supervisers for ye high way, | 1 12 4 | |
| It. to Mr. Nuttall for Drawing Information agst Tattersall, | 0 3 4 | |
| It. at ye Greave's return of his Account at Booth fould for ye yeare 1697, ye sum of.. .. . | 0 12 0 | |
| It. Charges of Sessing twoo Greave Layes togethr with ye bookes writing, ye sum of | 1 0 0 | |
| It. for Instructions and Charges of 2 bookes writing and Sessing ye land, ye sum of | 0 12 6 | |
| It. for ye repeire of Ribchester bridge and Dinhley bridge, ye sum of | 7 12 8 | |
| It. for ye repeire of Lancr. Castle and Lancher bridge, ye sum of | 2 13 9 | |
| | Carry forward, | £30 10 0 |

"The *Maimed Soldiers' Lay* is used for the relief of sick, hurt, and maimed soldiers and mariners.

"The *Prisoners' Lay* is used for the relief of the poor prisoners in the King's Majesty's Gaol at Lancaster.

"The 6th and last, called the *Soldiers' Lay*, or *County Lay*, is the most usual Tax or Lay either for mustering, arming, or furnishing of Soldiers for the King's Majesty's Wars, or of the trained bands, or for the repair of bridges, or any other use or purpose within the said county, except it be for some of the five special purposes before mentioned, and are to be taxed, collected, and paid in all the several hundreds, parishes, and townships within the said county, according to the same Lay, being the most *equal, reasonable*, and *indifferent Tax* for the whole county, either for men or money."

[The Fifteenths and Subsidies are two of the oldest Rates in the Kingdom, and were superseded by the LAND TAX Act of Parliament, which was framed on the principle of the ancient Subsidy Act and Fifteenths. We meet with payments of the Fifteenths so far back as the statute of *Magna*

Forest of Rossendale.

III

| | |
|---|----------|
| Brought forward, | £30 10 0 |
| It. for ye repeire of Accrington Bridge, | 1 5 4 |
| It. Instructions for ye pole tax and twoo Bookes writeing and Sessing, | 0 12 4 |
| It. for ye poore prsonrs at Lancr., | 0 13 9 |
| It. for drawing our Answer to ye 12 Articles, | 0 1 0 |
| It. for an Ordr. for Jam: Pilling, | 0 2 0 |
| It. for signing ye window duplicats [duplicates] by ye Justices, ye sum of | 0 3 0 |
| It. Charges of Conveying Jam: Pilling to ye house of Correction, | 0 14 0 |
| It. for ye repeire of Bridge end bridge, | 1 13 10 |
| It. for ye repeire of Crossford bridge, | 2 4 10 |
| It. Sessing one Greave lay and bookes writeing, | 0 10 0 |
| It. in Hoddlesdin spent at Sessing twoo Greaves layes, ye sum of | 0 2 0 |
| Spent .. . ye . . . of Lancr. . . . on ye Jury, .. | 0 1 0 |
| It. pd. to Jon. Ramsbottam, who was oute of purse, ye sum of | 1 5 7 |
| It. for Aprahending 2 vagrante psons and haveing them before Justice, | 0 2 0 |
| It. spent at ye putting my Accounts into ye Parish booke, ye sum of | 0 12 0 |
| Total sum disbursed is, | £40 12 8 |

Charta, on the conclusion of which the Parliament granted to King John, for concessions by him therein made, a Fifteenth Part of their *Moveable Goods, &c.*, &c.—NOTE BY MR. GREGSON.]

"When the Hundred of Blackburn is to make £100 of the County Rate, the Forests in the Hundred pay as follows:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---------------------------|---|----|-----|
| Bolland, | 1 | 6 | 10½ |
| Pendle, | 7 | 1 | 7½ |
| Ighnell Parke, | 0 | 15 | 11 |
| Heyhouses, | 0 | 3 | 2½ |
| Trawden, | 1 | 11 | 10½ |
| Rossendall, | 7 | 14 | 0 |
| Atrington Vetera, | 0 | 14 | 2 |
| Atrington Nova, | 1 | 17 | 2." |

Rossendale, being the most important, is made to contribute the largest share.

So that I am disbursed more than I have received wick I
am out of purse ye sum of £0 12 2

Seen and allowed by us,

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------|
| THO. LEIGH, | } | Pishoners. |
| GEORGE HARGREAVES, | | |
| RICHARD ORMEROD, | | |
| JOHN LORD, | | |
| HENRY LAW, | | |
| OLIVER PILLING, | | |
| JOHN HOULT, | | |
| GEORGE HARGREAVES, | | |
| HENRY HAWORTH, | | |

The name which appears first on the list of parishioners is that of the incumbent of Newchurch. Those which follow are probably the names of the churchwardens, and some of the leading residents.

THE ACCOUNTS OF JOHN YATE, GREAVE FOR THE
FOREST OF ROSSENDALE, FROM MICHAELMAS 1746, TO
MICHAELMAS 1747, HIS RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
BEING AS FOLLOWETH:—

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|-----------------|
| Recd. from the old Greave, | .. | .. | .. | £00 0 4½ |
| By two Assessments, | .. | .. | .. | 52 10 0 |
| | | | | <hr/> £52 10 4½ |

Disburs'd as follows:—

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Paid for two Receipts upon Strait money, | .. | £0 0 8 |
| Charges in Apprehending and conveying Jas. Smith and Judith Turner to ye House of Correction, | .. | 2 0 6 |
| Paid for Highway Warrants, | | 0 6 0 |
| Paid for Summons agst Jas. Smith, &c., | | 0 11 0 |
| Land Tax Instructions and returning Duplicates, | | 0 5 3 |
| Paid by several Precepts, | | 23 9 2½ |

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Carry forward, | £26 12 7½ |
|----------------|-----------|

Forest of Rossendale.

113

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Brought forward, | £26 12 7½ |
| To Executing a Bench Warrant, &c., | 0 4 0 |
| To attending ye Coroner's Inquest, | 0 1 6 |
| To apprehending and Conveying Jno. Whitaker and Alice Cheetham to ye House of Correction, .. | 1 5 0 |
| To a vagrant Warrant, | 0 2 0 |
| To ye Coroner upon ye body of Sarah Haworth, .. | 0 13 4 |
| Paid Messinger to fetch ye Coroner, | 0 5 0 |
| Paid Jury upon the same, | 0 4 4 |
| Charges in searching after Thos. Haworth for ye Murther of his wife, | 0 7 4 |
| To John Ormerod for going to Lancaster, | 0 5 0 |
| Pd. on Acct. of Transporting James Smith, .. | 2 2 0 |
| Charges in Apprehending and Conveying Thomas Haworth to Lancaster, | 1 5 0 |
| Charges for five persons to Preston upon ye sd Murther | 0 17 0 |
| Assessing two Greave Lays at Bellthorn, | 1 00 0 |
| Going to four Quarter Sessions, | 0 10 0 |
| Paid for returning a List of Jurors, | 0 1 0 |
| Charges at ye Assizes upon ye Prosecution of Thos. Haworth, for ye murther of his wife, | 8 11 2 |
| Paid for returning Duplicates for Window Tax, .. | 0 1 5 |
| Charges in conveying Thos. Edmundson to House of Correction, | 0 10 0 |
| Paid for a Warrant against cursing and swearing, .. | 0 2 0 |
| Paid to sevrall passengers, | 0 7 4 |
| Writing Land Tax and Greave Lay Books, | 0 10 0 |
| At making up these Accts., | 0 5 0 |
| To Dr. Midgely, | 0 8 0 |
| To Entring ye Accounts, | 0 1 0 |
| | £46 11 0½ |
| Recd., .. | 52 10 4½ |
| Rests due, .. | £5 19 4½ |

Perus'd and allowed by us this 12th day of March 1748.

GEO. HAWORTH,
JOHN ORMEROD,
JNO. HARGREAVES,
JOHN LORD,
RICHD. DEARDEN.

The following entries, extracted at random from the accounts of different years, are full of interest, affording us now and again a passing glimpse of some strange transactions, suggesting many curious reflections, while they serve better than the most elaborate essay to illustrate the peculiar manners and customs of the times.

1691—2.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Item, for the use of the Militia, | £3 2 6 |
| Item, for certain lands annexed and laid to and for the use of Waterfoot bridge, | 00 11 7 |
| Item, for Relieving 25 passengers at severall times with money and carriges, | 00 14 10 |
| Item, in money spent upon the jury at ye time of viewinge the dead body of John Piccop, late of Newchurch, | 00 1 6 |

Many such entries as the above occur, of money having been "spent upon the jurymen." The sums vary in amount from 1s. 4d. to 4s. 4d., but the rule seems to have been 4d. each man. People in those days had a natural aversion to working for nothing.

The next entry is of the true antiquarian cast, and is at once striking and characteristic.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Item, for a Bridle for Scoulding women, | £00 2 5 |
|---|---------|

The Bridle or Brank, as it is also called, used by our forefathers for the punishment of scolds and "slandrous gossips," was constructed of iron, having a collar which fitted round the neck, being hinged at the sides, to which were fastened four bands, or hoops, rising over the ears, and in front between the eyes, crossing each other on the crown of the head. The band passing down the back of the head was hinged at the crown so as easily to be raised when the instrument was applied to the culprit, and was then secured to the collar by a padlock at the back of the neck. On the band in front was welded a piece of steel called the gag or bridle-bit, about two inches long, and one inch broad, projecting inwards, having its under side rasped or cut like a rough file. This was inserted into the mouth of the noisy delinquent, and rested upon the tongue, thus effectually preventing her from exercising that

particular faculty which had provoked the indignation of the law. Above the bit was an aperture for admitting the nose. During the last half of the seventeenth, and throughout the eighteenth century, this was the popular mode of punishment for termagants and shrews. Prior to that time the Ducking or Cucking-Stool was in vogue. It is quite probable that the earlier accounts of the Greaves of the Forest would include entries having reference to this engine of punishment.

The Ducking Stool was a much more formidable instrument than the Bridle, though it is questionable whether it answered the desired end as completely as the subsequent invention. We have the testimony of a writer in the time of James II., no less than the learned Dr. Plot, in his History of Staffordshire, that it did not. Comparing the two modes of punishment, he says :—"They have an artifice at Newcastle-under-Lyne and Walsall, for correcting of Scolds, which it does so effectually that I look upon it as much to be preferred to the Cucking-Stool, which not only endangers the health of the party, but also gives the tongue liberty 'twixt every dip, to neither of which this is at all liable ; it being such a bridle for the tongue as not only quite deprives them of speech, but brings shame for the transgression, and humility thereupon, before 'tis taken off ; which being put upon the offender by order of the magistrate, and fastened with a padlock behind, she is led round the town by an officer, to her shame. Nor is it taken off till after the party begins to show all external signs imaginable of humiliation and amendment."

The Ducking Stool consisted of a plank or other lever, from twelve to fifteen feet long, supported in the middle by an upright post which was driven into the ground, close by the side of the river or pond, and arranged in such a manner as to allow of its being raised and depressed, or swung round in any direction. To the end of the plank a chair or stool was attached by means of a pivot which allowed it always to retain the horizontal position. In this the offender was securely fastened, and being swung round over the water, the opposite end of the lever was raised, and the

occupant of the chair immersed as often as was thought desirable, three being the usual number of dips. About the barbarity of this custom there can at this day be no two opinions ; and we quite coincide in Dr. Plot's view that "Lucy's Muzzle," as the bridle was sometimes called, was a more effectual, while it was also a more merciful, method of treating the rebellious members of the weaker sex. Many of these bridles, which were once

"The dread of ev'ry scolding queen,"

are preserved in museums and in private collections throughout the country. At the sale of the effects of Mrs. Benson, Fletcher Fold, near Bury, widow of the late William Benson, Esq., agent to the Earl of Derby, a relic of this kind was disposed of by auction, being purchased by, and now in the possession of a friend of the writer's residing at Bury. This Bridle or Brank was formerly the property of the township of Pilkington, and was kept in the workhouse there, for use on all needful occasions. To its efficacy in curbing the unruly member, I can bear personal testimony, having had the happiness of trying it on, on more than one occasion.

The next entry is from the year 1693, and is an

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Item to Passengers taking Sarah Whittwham to ye house | | | | | |
| of Correction, | .. | .. | .. | .. | £1 6 7 |

Note the expression, *Passengers*. Sarah seems to have been an obstreperous character, as it required two or three persons to convey her to her destination.

1696-97.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|---------|
| It. to Mr. Cunliffe, vardict bringing in, | .. | .. | £0 14 5 |
|---|----|----|---------|

1697-98.

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|-------|
| It. for making utinsells and workelumes in ye House of | | | | | |
| Correction .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 4 7 |

This has reference to the Preston House of Correction, and the sum of 4s. 7d. is the proportionate amount contributed by the Forest of Rossendale towards the object named.

1698-99.

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|
| Item, for Drawing our Answer to ye Articles.. | .. | .. | £0 | 1 | 0 |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|

1699, 1700.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Item for ye charges of ye Bride Robs | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 8 | 0 |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|---|---|

I am unable to throw light on these two last entries.

Item for two Lawyear's fees att Lancr. and Sillisitinge (*sic*)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| for ye same | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £1 | 6 | 8 |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Item for a way marke | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 3 | 6 |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|

There are numerous entries of this latter kind in the Greaves' Book. Finger or guide posts, or way marks, having inscriptions painted upon them, appear to have been placed near to the various cross roads in the locality to direct travellers in the right path. The names of some of the villages were also prominently exhibited. Perhaps the only remnant of the practice remaining in the district, is the name BACUP, now almost defaced, conspicuously painted in very large capital letters on the gable end of a stable near to the toll bar at the foot of Todmorden road, and intended to catch the eye of travellers coming out of Yorkshire.

1700-1.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| It. for ye repaire of New-hall-hey Bridge | .. | .. | .. | £1 | 19 | 1 |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. for a warrant for collectors of ye tax of Births, &c., | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. for ye repaire of Butts and Stoccks, | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 5 | 0 |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|

1705-6.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| An ordr. for cendincing (sentencing) Mary Ramsbottom, | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 15 | 0 |
|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|

1706-7.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. for Amending Stock house door, | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. for charges in taking up Idle persons | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 7 | 0 |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|

1708-9.

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| For a Robbery upon Lawr. Shuttleworth | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 13 | 6 |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|----|---|

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. paid for 13 horses for conveying soldiers, | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 8 | 8 |
|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|

1709-10.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| It. pd. for a warrt, for apprehending seamen, | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|

1710-11.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| It. spent att a meeting abt. Sowing. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 10 | 0 |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|---|----|---|

We now come upon a series of interesting entries bearing on the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715, intended, had it been successful, to depose the first George, and place the sovereignty of these islands and their dependencies in the hands of the exiled son of James II., best known to history by the title of the "Old Pretender."

Rossendale contributed its quota in men and money towards the suppression of this ill-concocted outbreak. The following items occur amongst others.

1715.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| For Repairing Butts, | £0 2 0 |
|------------------------------|--------|

1716.

| | |
|---|--------|
| It. for conveying of vagrants and reimbursing severall townes | |
| yt attended his Maties' troops, | 2 16 5 |
| It. for Mr. of ye House of Correction, and use of Malitia | |
| by ye deputy Lievetenants, | 1 4 0 |
| It. for a further supplie to ye Malitia, | 0 7 9 |
| It for Trophy Money, | 0 7 9 |

"Trophy Money" is a payment towards providing colours, drums, trumpets, and other paraphernalia for the county militia, and not, as might naturally be supposed, a contribution for the erection of a pile or other monument of victory.

1716.

| | |
|---|---------|
| It. Carriages yt attended his Maties' Troops, | £4 3 11 |
| It. for conducting Souldiers at severall times, | 0 8 6 |

1717.

| | |
|---|--------|
| For furnishing with Amunition and other necessaries for ye | |
| use of ye Malitia, | 3 5 9 |
| For carrying Souldiers and Seamen to Burnley and Hasling- | |
| den and Relieving ym, | 0 12 5 |
| Pd. to Edmund Whittaker for a Souldier's wife lying att his | |
| house, | 1 0 0 |

1718.

| | |
|---|--------|
| For conveying his Majesty's troops, | 2 15 6 |
| Given to severall Soldiers, | 0 11 0 |
| 4 Horses to Burnley with soldiers, | 0 3 0 |
| Pd. James Heape for his loss with soldiers, | 1 10 0 |

It would have satisfied curiosity had the nature of Mr. Heap's loss been stated.

The next item is curious :—

1718.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Instructions for taking up idle persons, | £0 0 6 |
|--|--------|

Recusants, or suspected persons—strangers probably—who could not render a good account of themselves.

1721.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Item. for maintaining the Watch in this County, | £0 7 8 |
| Item. paid to two Souldrs their wife and three children, .. | 0 0 7 |

We are forcibly reminded by this entry that the days of clover for the poor soldier had passed away. The rebellion was completely stamped out ; his services were no longer required—he must therefore go to the wall. But this was surely economising to a degree. A miserable pittance among so many ; barely enough to prevent their famishing before getting beyond the confines of the Forest.

1722.

| | |
|--|---------|
| For Watch to prevent Infected Ships Landing, | £04 1 8 |
|--|---------|

During the years 1720—2, France was visited by a horrible pestilence or plague of the most infectious and deadly character. In the commercial city of Marseilles alone, about sixty thousand persons died of this scourge. The above entry has reference to the precautions which were taken by the authorities of Lancashire to prevent its reaching these shores.

1723.

| | |
|---|--------|
| For Instructions of Land Tax, for Papists' Sess and Warrant, .. | £0 2 0 |
|---|--------|

1724.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Pd. to poor travellers, | 0 6 6 |
| It. to two disbanded Soldiers, | 0 1 0 |

1727.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Spent at proclaiming George II., | 1 0 2 |
|--|-------|

1729.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Spent in relieving Laurence Lord, of Baccop, | 0 1 0 |
|--|-------|

1734.

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| For the Repair of Stocks at Newchurch, | .. | .. | .. | £0 | 14 | 6 |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|---|

1738.

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| To a Warrant for taking Sailors, | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|

Runaway sailors who had taken refuge in this district.

1740-41.

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Spent in apprehending and conveying John Briercliff to | | | | | | |
| Lancaster, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £2 2 4 |

1742.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| Conveying a Deserter to Lancaster | .. | .. | .. | .. | 00 | 15 | 0 |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|

1743.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Paid to the Cornoll (Coroner) for coming to Hen. Ashworth's | | | | | | |
| wife | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 10 0 |

1744.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Repairing Rawtenstall Stocks | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|

The next item is suggestive—we are drawing near to times of trouble and mistrust.

1744.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|----|---|---|
| For taking the oath of delivering ye names of all ye Papists, | | | | | £0 | 1 | 0 |
|---|--|--|--|--|----|---|---|

In the following year the rebellion which had been brewing in favour of Prince Charles Edward, son of the Chevalier de St. George, discovered itself about the end of July, when the "Young Pretender," having sailed from France, landed on the western shores of the Scottish Highlands. Many of the hardy mountaineers, it is well known, flocked to the standard of the prince; but it was not until after the battle of Preston-pans, which resulted in a victory for the rebels, and their subsequent advance into England, that the Government of the day began to estimate the importance of the movement thus inaugurated to restore to the throne of his fathers this ill-fated scion of the house of Stuart.

It is interesting to connect our district with the events of the period; and this we are enabled to do by the next series of entries in the Greaves' Book, to the following effect;—

THE ACCOUNTS OF GEORGE ASHWORTH OF
LENCHES, GREAVE OF THE FORREST OF
ROSSENDALE, FROM MICHAELMAS 1744 TO
MICHAELMAS 1745, WITH ALL HIS RECEIPTS
AND DISBURSEMENTS UPON ACCOUNT OF
THE MILITIA SOLDIERS OF YE SD. FORREST,
AS FOLLOWS:—

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|
| Received by an Assessment, Allowance to ye collectors | | | | | | |
| deducted, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £20 16 8½ |
| <hr/> | | | | | | |
| Disburst:— | | | | | | |
| To Work done by ye Gunsmith | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £0 7 4 |
| To Musket, Hen. Hargreaves, Laneside | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 11 8 |
| To 6 Warrants | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 9 0 |
| To Expenses with ye Clarks | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 0 9 |
| To Expenses Laying a Lay | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 7 0 |
| To Expenses Drawing and Paying | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 3 0 |
| To Writing Militia Book | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 6 8 |
| To 28 Principalls and Posts | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 4 10½ |
| To Fetching and taking care of 6 muskets | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 1 0 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | | £17 11 3½ |
| Cash in Hand | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 5 4½ |

It will not be inferred that the few muskets mentioned here were all that the militia of the Forest possessed. To do this would be to place things in rather a ludicrous light. It must be presumed that our local soldiers were accoutred as fully as the times allowed, and that these were only a few necessary expenses entailed in their equipment.

The "Principalls and Posts," which constitute the heaviest item in the bill, were probably used in the construction of butts for musket practice, though these were as often as not merely sodded mounds of earth; or in the erection of a temporary shelter during the hours of drill. The following list is copied from an old M.S. volume in the possession of the late George Hargreaves, Esq., J.P., of Newchurch, and is entitled

A LIST OF THE POSTS FOR ROSSENDALE MILITIA,
DELIVERED TO THE DEPUTY-LIEUTENANTS OF
THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER AT BLACKBURN
YE 3^D DAY OF APRIL 1744. WARRANT TAKEN
TO FIX YE POSTS YE 5TH JULY 1745.

1. Will. Ormerod, Gambleside.
2. Richd. Holt, Loveclough.
3. Geo. Hargreaves, Goodshaw.
4. Geo. Haworth, Crawshaybooth.
5. Dennis Haworth, Bottomly bank.
6. Henry Haworth, Constablee.
7. Jno. Duckworth, Park House.
8. Lce. Duckworth, Musberry.
9. Richd. Whitaker, Rawtenstall.
10. Jno. Ashworth, Newhouse.
11. Jno. Townend, Newhallhey.
12. Jno. Ramsbottom, Tunstead.
13. Jno. Ormerod, Tunstead.
14. Jno. Whitaker, Broadclough.
15. Jno. Lord, Broadclough.
16. Abram Law, Holmes.
17. Jno. Hargreaves, Newchurch.
18. Jno. Lord, Greensnook.
19. James Law, Green Lane.
20. Hew Hargreaves, Nabb.
21. Law. Ormerod, Lum.
22. Will. Halstead, Dunnockshaw.
23. Law. Yates, Hoddlesden.
24. George Yates, Hoddlesden.
25. Hen. Hargreaves, Laneside.
26. Oliver Ormerod, Heightside.
27. Robt. Halstead, Constablee.
28. Jos. Townend, Musberry.
29. Jno. Holt, Lenches.
30. James Piccop, Heightside.

N.B.—The six last were added, which is to be considered by the gentlemen at the next meeting. At the next meeting, which was on 5th July 1745, the Gentlemen Deputy-Lieutenants agreed to discharge the six last Posts, which were imposed upon the Forest by Major Bradshaw about the year 1696.

The rebel garrison, a detachment of the retreating army of the Pretender, in whose charge the city and castle of Carlisle had been left, surrendered to the Duke of Cumberland on December 30th, 1745, and in reference to this event, the following item occurs:—

| | |
|--|--------|
| Paid the Ringers at ye taking Carlisle, by ordr of ye High | • |
| Constab.. .. . | £0 1 0 |

In the month following, the rebel army fled from Stirling, and this was another cause for rejoicing.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Paid the Ringers at ye taking Stirling, by ordr of ye High | |
| Constable, | £0 1 6 |

Rossendale, it appears, was honoured by a flying visit from some of the Pretender's friends, as the next entry very significantly shows:—

| | |
|--|--------|
| 1746. | |
| Taking up ⁴ Rebels and ye charges of carrying them before | |
| the Justices | £0 5 6 |

It is of interest to note that a curious pamphlet, now exceedingly scarce, relating to the events referred to in the Greaves' Accounts, and dealing at some length with the loyal inhabitants of Rossendale, was published at this time, the writer evidently being either an inhabitant of the district, or having some connection therewith. The work is described on the title page as a "Poem on the late rebellion, from the Young Pretender's first landing in the Isle of Skie to his defeat at the battle near Culloden; by Philonactos Rossendaliensis, Manchester; printed by R. Whitworth for the author, price 3d." (b) It contains 24 pages, including the title page. The poem is 361 lines in length, and occupies 19 pages; the title page and preface, 5 pages.

The preface is addressed "To all Ranks of People," and begins—
"Candid readers.

"Pardon the dress wherein the following lines appear, which, tho' they may not answer the expectations of any curious critick,

(b) The Manchester Free Reference Library has a copy of the pamphlet.

yet, if they tend in any measure to paint forth the horrid figure and destructive design of a parcel of rebellious rovers and desperate plunderers, who have lately disturbed this peaceful island, and thereby beget in the breast of any poor misled Briton an abhorrence of the wicked principles that actuated them, the author will think his labour well rewarded, who is humbly persuaded that none can accuse him of extravagant hyperboles, except such who have imbibed their pernicious tenets, and secretly thirst after the ruin of our present constitution both in Church and State."

The poem begins—

"Thou heav'nly Muse, who kind assistance lent
To antient bards on mighty themes intent,
Who did'st their breasts with sacred truths inspire,
Give me one spark of Thy poetick fire.
But chiefly Thou, supreme, Eternal King,
Who did'st confusion to bright order bring,
Assist my feeble muse, whilst I relate
The sad distractions of Britannia's State."

The author then proceeds to recount the progress of the Pretender's army through England to Derby, and he continues—

"And Derby last finish'd their long career,
Tow'rd Trentaine's Ford they wing'd their speedy flight,
Marching full thirty miles one winter's night.
To guard each pass the Duke no time had lost,
Which struck such pannicks in the rebel host,
That now they dreamed on Albion's Crown no more,
But back thro' towns they'd ravag'd once before
They flew, like flock of fowls, or wild or tame,
Whilst the brave Duke pursu'd his fright'ned game;
How with amazement struck, the rebels fled,
Loud noisy fame thro' distant countries spread,
Brave Rosendale, who base designs abhorr'd,
And own'd no king but George their sov'reign lord,
With love unfeign'd great Brunswick's line rever'd,
Nor Popish brats nor Jacobitish fear'd,
This news received, with just resentment fir'd,
In council met, her Grandees arms required,

At their command the warlike peasants rise,
And loud huzzas re-echo'd thro' the skies ;
Some arm'd with clubs, like Hercules of old,
Others with guns, all resolutely bold
Had instruments of death, one mind, one heart
Gave life to all, and quick'ned ev'ry part,
By beat of drums, and ensigns wav'd on high,
They march'd, but when the rebel host drew nigh,
Th' adjacent towns, oh, shame ! refus'd their aid,
And left these warlike souls to fiends betray'd ;
What cou'd they do, abandoned by their friends,
A match unequal to these rebel bands ?
With sad regret, breathing revengful ire,
Prudence taught them reluctant to retire ;
So now these rovers straight their flight pursued,
And eager pace their quick retreat renew'd."

And so on.

As bearing on this subject, and partly elucidating and confirming the statements in the poem, the following interesting and quaint particulars, relating to the young Pretender's rising in 1745, and the march of the rebels, are from a diary kept by Richard Kay, of Baldingstone, near Bury, the residence of his father, who was a staunch Nonconformist, and who appears from the diary to have kept open house for all Nonconformist ministers in this and the surrounding neighbourhood.

The contents of the diary from which the extracts are taken were contributed by Sir Thomas Baker, late Mayor of Manchester, to the "Palatine Note Book," vol. iv. pp. 19, *et seq.*

"December 8th, 1745. This day—this Sabbath Day—in the morning, as we were going to Bury Chappel, we met Coz. Dr. Kay and his brother Coz. John Kay, from Manchester, who told us they were fleeing out of the way of the rebells, who had marched to Darby, near our army, and retreated; Manchester, with the assistance of the country people, are intending to make a stand against them. Cousins would have me to go to Rossendale with them, about four miles hence, to raise the people there. I took a ride with them. In the afternoon we heard Mr. Welch preach at

Rossendale Church from I. John, iii. 2: Lord, may we be in covenant with God, and then we may hope that all will be well with us.

"December 9th. This day, in the afternoon, I visited at Stand. We hear all the Highland rebels from Scotland, who have been as far as Darby towards London, intending to get a Prince upon the Throne, a nursling from Rome, are this evening all in Manchester. Finding themselves not a sufficient force to engage our army, they are making the best of their way for the Highlands; our army, about 1,400 strong, are pursuing them. We have another army in Yorkshire about 10,000 strong. The rebels plunder and do a deal of mischief. The Rossendale people, about 500, came our road, towards Manchester to-day, but 'tis thought proper not to oppose the rebels; they and thousands were dismissed. Lord, bring good out of the troublesome times."

"January 15th, 1746. This day, after visiting a patient in the afternoon, I spent the evening at Coz. Neddy Kay's, of Brook-bottom, with some other company, and lodged there. By all accounts 'tis expected about this time our forces are engaging the rebels in Scotland. Times at present run high amongst us, some shewing themselves much in favour for the present Government, and but too many for the Pretender; an instance whereof I shall give in the following lines, being a copy of what was sent to our family to-day from Bury upon account of the mobb we raised to oppose the rebels, and mentioned December 8 and 9, which is as follows:—

"Notice is hereby given that his Rumpish Highness, the Second Pretender and Prince of the Presbyterian territories, has given an order for the raising a new Regiment of Rossendale Plunderers, under the most emphatical denomination of Oliverian Murderers; and that such as are willing to join are ordered to repair to the Colonel Quarters at the sign of the Bloody Surgeon. . . . the Ensign's Inn at the sign of Three Marshall Handkerchiefs, where for their advance they shall receive full power to kill and plunder all loyal subjects to the true born King, and for their further

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Henry and Henry, Photo.

Haslingden.

GOODSHAW FOLD.



Henry and Henry, Photo.,

Hastingsden.

GOODSHAW FOLD.

encouragement when they come to join their respective regiment, now lying squander'd and confounded in the bewildered Forrest of Rossendale, they shall receive no pay nor clothing, but every man a rusty sword, an old stick and a long pike and roasting spits, and all things fitting to complete a gentleman plunderer and an Oliverian Murderer, out of whose hands God save the true born King!"

"His Rumpish Highness is Coz. John Kay, Prince of the Presbyterian Territories is his brother, Coz. Doctor Kay. The Colonel quarters at the sign of the Bloody Surgeon, is represented as my sign. The Ensign's Inn is Brother Joseph Baron's in Bury; the Three Marshall Handkerchiefs are represented as his sign on account of his shop. Lord, suffer us not to be a reproach, and let us hope in Thy salvation."

The Rebellion being now at an end, our local functionary has time to devote himself to other matters, as follows:—

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|----|---|--|--|--|
| 1746. | | | | | | | |
| Warrant against Cursing and Swearing, | £ | 0 | 2 | 0 | | | |
| 1748. | | | | | | | |
| To a Warrant against prophane Swearing, | | 0 | 2 | 0 | | | |
| 1749. | | | | | | | |
| Grave Staff Repairs, | | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | |
| Watch and Ward at Bacob and Rawtenstall, | | 0 | 12 | 8 | | | |

During the Rebellion of 1745, and for several years after, a person of the name of Heap kept "Watch and Ward" at Higher Broadclough, Bacup,—opposite the old house.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1750. | | | | | | | |
| To Erecting a pair of Stocks at Goodshaw, | £ | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | |

Payments on account of the erection and maintenance of the Stocks in the different villages throughout Rossendale occur very frequently: none more so than at Goodshaw, which would lead us to infer that they were often in requisition in that now rather obscure corner of the Forest. We may naturally suppose, however, that Goodshaw in the good old coaching days was better known

than at present, and would be a convenient resting-place for the "Tramps" passing in that direction to and from Burnley, a class of characters apt even yet to get into trouble, and to whom the Stocks of bygone times would be familiar enough.

This mode of punishment has now almost universally fallen into disuse, though in some rural districts the machine is still preserved as a relic of the past.

The Stocks consisted, generally, of two upright stone or wooden posts, into which were fitted three horizontal planks, the lowest being a fixture, while the two upper were made to slide vertically in a groove in the pillars. In the respective edges of the planks, notches of different sizes were cut to receive the arms and legs of the culprit, when the whole were bound together with iron fastenings secured by a padlock.

The offender was usually seated on a stool, but in some cases he was left lying on his back on the bare ground, with his arms at liberty, his legs only being secured.

The Stocks were used as a punishment for brawling, profane swearing, drunkenness, and other minor offences. In some towns the drunkard was made to perambulate the streets, carrying a cask, in which were holes for the head and arms to pass through, and called "The Drunkard's Cloak."

To Scuttle Harry and Old Glover, £0 2 6

Two suggestive names, doubtless well-known characters in their day, but of whom no other record exists.

1752.

A Warrant against Swearing, 0 2 0

1753.

To Conveying Oliver Grime, 2 Sons and Daughter, to ye House

of Correction, 2 10 0

To one Vagrant Warrt. and Sunday Warrt., 0 5 0

Sabbath-breaking and Profane Swearing were crimes which, during last, and in the earlier years of the present century, our forefathers vigilantly endeavoured to suppress. It was the custom

of the churchwardens, after service had commenced on the Sabbath morning, each carrying his staff, the badge of Office, to parade the streets, and visit the highways and by-lanes in search of Sunday desecrators. Unless Report (who to be sure is a foul-tongued jade at times) does them injustice, the example which many of these functionaries displayed in their own person was not always of the best ; seeing, that instead of returning to the Church, they were in the habit of ensconcing themselves in the back parlour of the village Inn ; and it was frequently observed on such occasions that their self-denying devotions at the shrine of Bacchus had been so deep and strong as visibly to affect the steadiness of their gait for the remainder of the day. It is even said, though we give no credence to the statement, that the village urchins, on occasional times when one of these officials was more than usually elevated, might be seen

“ ——Following, with mischievous wile,
To pluck his gown,’

not in the expectation of

“ ——sharing the good man’s smile,”

as the poet of “sweet Auburn” expresses it ; but with a view to invoking that peculiar blessing which the votaries of the aforementioned god are mostly accustomed to pronounce.

1757.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| To 2 Pair of Handcufts, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 60 | 6 | 0 |
| To waiting of a man 2 Days and 1 Night, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| To numbering ye People and writing return, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |

[In other words, taking the Census.]

1760.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| Guide Post at 4 Lane-ends, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 19 | 4 |
| Proclaiming King George 3d, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 | 7 |

1762.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| To one Lock and Key for Town Box, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 | 0 | 7 |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|

The “Town Box” here referred to is that in which the Standard Weights and Measures were kept.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| 1762. | | | | | | | |
| To Grave Staff, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £0 2 0 |
| 1764. | | | | | | | |
| 8 Juremen upon Ab' at Nunhills, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 2 8 |
| 1766. | | | | | | | |
| Conveying Ben. Rawstron to Lancaster, a Desarter, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 4 0 |
| 1769. | | | | | | | |
| To Charges about a felon fled out of Yorkshire, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 10 6 |
| 1770. | | | | | | | |
| To Charges compelling the Excise Officer to pay his Land Tax, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 3 3 |
| To Repairing Bacop Stocks, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 8 4 |

For many years the Stocks at Bacup stood near to the old school-house, which was pulled down to make room for the Mechanics' Institution; they were afterwards removed to the side of the Dungeon at the foot of Todmorden Road, where they remained until they fell into disuse. The side pillars, which were of stone, are still in existence, and probably entire, though buried more than half their depth in the ground, being placed so as to keep cart wheels from coming in contact with the corner of the wall in front of the brick houses at Tong Bridge.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| 1777. | | | | | | | |
| To Setting up Guide Post four Lane ends, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £0 2 6 |
| 1778. | | | | | | | |
| 2 Pair of Stocks, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 10 0 |
| Stocks at Goodshaw, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 18 8 |
| 1779. | | | | | | | |
| Paid for a Key for Handcufts, | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0 0 6 |

The next entry has reference to a state of things which happily has ceased to exist in this country.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|
| 1779. | | | | | | | |
| Expenses laid out in Impressing Men, over and besides the | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| bounty | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £2 13 1 |

The horrible and unnatural system of impressment for the Navy was in force far into the present century. At this day it may well create wonder that a practice so vile should have found its advocates. The Ballot is a merciful and just measure when a righteous

cause requires its exercise, inasmuch as it places all on a level, affords time for preparation and arrangement, and the chances of immunity are equal. But when by brute force men, when going about their lawful occupations, are dragged away by ruffian hands, without warning, and in spite of remonstrance, we instinctively feel that the cause must be unholy which needs such unchristian aid.

1782.

To Trash at severall Times, £0 0 5

Trifling payments probably. Or is it to be understood that Beggars or Vagrants are implied in the term "Trash?"

1784.

To 6 Gide Postess, £4 15 1

Guide Posts were evidently an important item of cost in those days.

1786-7.

To John Ormerod for Dongeon at Backup, come to £7 15 3½

The original Dungeon at Bacup was a kind of arched cellar in the vicinity of the Buck Inn; the entrance being through a hole in the roof, closed by a ponderous flag, which would no doubt be secured in some rude way outside. The latest Dungeon at Bacup, a small, incommodious, and dingy building, stood, until recently, on or near the site of the Corn Mill Office, Yorkshire Street.

1786-7.

To James Nuttall, Church, for Truncels, (? Truncheons,) £1 6 0

Dungeons appear to have been in request about this time. The following Minute of a public meeting is recorded :—

"Newchurch, Nov. ye 11th, 1788.

"Note, that it is agreed by all these present that 2 Dongeons be made when ever the Inhabitants of Newchurch and Goodshaw Chapel think proper, that is to say, one at Each place, is agreed by us at a publick meeting on the day aforesaid.

"J. SHORROCK.

JNO. HARGREAVES.

LAWCE. ORMEROD, High Constable.

And 14 others."

It does not appear from these records that a Dungeon was erected at either of the places mentioned. Fifteen years afterwards, one was built at Crawshawbooth, at a cost as follows:—

Exps. of Erecting a Dungeon at Crawshawbooth, purchase
money, Surrender, Stamp, &c., £25 16 6

And again in 1805 is the following payment for

Surrender for Dungeon at Crawshawbooth, 0 16 6

1792-3.

To a Wallet for Town's Weights, 0 1 7

To an Iron Yard, 0 0 10

To Standard Wine Measures, 1 2 6

Paid for Weigh balk, 0 6 6

1796.

Relieving Mary Wilson and a child from Portsmouth to

Edinburgh with a pass, £0 1 0

The War with France, which commenced in 1793, kept the hands of our Government fully employed; and responses to the calls for men and money constantly occur in these records of the Greave from the time when Buonaparte entered upon his career of conquest in 1796, down to the year when it terminated so disastrously on the plains of Waterloo.

The taxation of the period pressed heavily on the population. The returns from the assessments for this and subsequent years vary in amount from Three to Six Hundred Pounds.

In these heavy expenses are sums paid on account of the Militia and the Supplementary Militia; for the summoning of (yeomanry) Cavalry to be sworn in, warrants for the apprehension and prosecution of Deserters, &c. In the year 1798 is a long account of "Extra Expenses" of Supplementary Militia, and Balloting for the same; and again of "Additional Expenses" in numbering the Inhabitants of Rossendale; for inquiring into, and rendering an account of their Qualifications in the event of any Foreign invasion. The numbering of the Cattle within the Forest was also part of the Greave's duty on this occasion, and all this was done agreeably to certain Schedules issued by order of the Lieutenancy.

From the enumeration which was then made, it was found that the number of able-bodied men capable of actual service, residing within the Forest of Rossendale, amounted to 2000 ; a respectable number out of a population of barely 10,000 young and old.

The following are some of the entries above referred to:—

1797.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Expenses to Whalley in attending on Magistrates on supplementary Militia, | £0 3 0 |
| To Summoning Cavalry to be sworn in, | 0 12 0 |

1798.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Expenses of Peter Warburton to Rochdale, to prove him a Disarter, | 0 7 6 |
|---|-------|

The Peace of Amiens brought with it a brief interval of tranquillity, which was again rudely disturbed by the renewal of hostilities with France in 1803, caused by the insulting menaces and restless ambition of Napoleon I., who began to make immense preparations for the invasion of Great Britain. The whole Country was at once in arms to resist the invader; the utmost enthusiasm prevailed, and a Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps 400,000 strong, rose as one man, to defend their hearths and homes. About 30,000 of that number were raised in Lancashire, and to these Rossendale contributed its full share. The Greave of the Forest records in numerous entries, extending over a lengthened period, that meetings and consultations for the "Defence of the Nation" were held at "Bacop, Newchurch, and Edgeside." No half-hearted patriotism was displayed. An enumeration was made of the number of males between the ages of 17 and 55, within the district. Men were enrolled for the "Army of Reserve," and Volunteers poured in from every valley and hill side. A List of the Resident Ministers was made, and a return of the Copyholders and Freeholders, with the number of Cotton and Woollen Mills, and of Cattle within the district was prepared. Altogether, 1803 was a year of agitation and preparation, which has scarcely found its parallel in later times.

These are a few selected from many similar entries at this period :—

1803.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Expense to Burnley to receive Instructions for the Defence of the Nation, 2 days, | £0 6 0 |
| Numbering Persons and Cattle, &c., and others willing to serve Volunteer seven days, | 1 1 0 |

1804.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Exps. Bill of Recruiting for Additional Force for his Majesty in the Forest, | 14 18 8 |
| Extra exps. for Drummer and Fifer, | 1 4 0 |

And in 1805-6 is an item—

| | |
|---|--------|
| To R. Lord for Ribbons omitted last year, | £0 7 8 |
|---|--------|

The ribbons being doubtless part of the furnishing of the recruiting sergeants.

Other suggestive records of this kind appear—

1806-7.

| | |
|--|--------|
| 4 Passengers lame that was wounded with Nelson, | £0 4 6 |
| Mary Whitley, a Sailor's wife, and three children, going to Gloucester, | 0 1 6 |
| 2 lame Soldiers and their wives and 3 children, going to Edinburgh, | 0 3 0 |

1807-8.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Seven disabled Sailors to Ireland, | 0 3 0 |
|--|-------|

1812.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Postage of a Letter about a Diserter, | 0 0 11 |
|---|--------|

1812-13.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Making a List of Regular Militia for Coup Lenches, &c., where they were serving at present, and if they are married, and where their wives and Families reside, if any, and delivering the same at Burnley, | 0 15 0 |
|--|--------|

Returning to civil affairs, the following items are worthy of selection :—

1800-1.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Relief to a Poor Person at Hareholme gate, being starved, | £0 0 6 |
| Paid G. Welsh for Commissrs' Clerk's returns of Hair Powder and Armorial Bearings, | 0 2 6 |
| Summoning Little Taylor at Delph, | 0 3 0 |

1801-2.

To Expenses with Abm. Cropper, James Haworth, and John
Haworth, to Holmes Chappel, £0 8 6

Many entries similar to the last occur. Previous to the appointment of Magistrates in Rossendale, prisoners were conveyed to Holmes Chapel to be tried before the Justice of the Peace there.

1803.

20 Trunsheons from Burnley for Constables, £2 16 6
Paid Jas. Nuttall for 22 Trunsheons for Constables at New-
church, &c., 3 6 0

1804.

To 2 pair of Steel Ruffles, 0 6 6
[A Polite name for Handcuffs.]

1804.

Paid in the Vestry of Newchurch, for obtaining fines of the
Inhabitants of Rossendale in respect of Sunday Rules, .. 2 0 0
To a Constable Staff for Bacop, 0 7 6
Salaries for the Sextons Ringing eight o'clock at Newchurch,
Bacop, and Goodshaw Chapel, for one year, 10s. each .. 1 10 0
Parish Clerk in giving Public Notices in the Church, 0 2 6

In bygone days, when printing was more a luxury than a necessity of life, and only to be resorted to on grand occasions, our simple-minded forefathers were in the habit of making public from the Clerk's desk in the Church, after service, all those secular transactions in which the general community were expected to feel an interest. If a sale by auction was arranged to take place during the coming week, the fact was duly made known. If any acts of trespass or wilful damage had been committed, the particulars were set forth, and a reward offered for such information as would lead to the conviction of the offenders. It is even whispered that Bull-baitings formed a common subject of announcement; but for the truth of this, not having trustworthy evidence, we are not prepared to vouch. In some places the Clerk, instead of giving his Notices within the walls of the sacred edifice, came out into the Churchyard, and, from a convenient

elevation on a tombstone, read out his Intimations to the dispersing congregation. Many of these notices, as might naturally be supposed, partook largely of the ludicrous, and would give a rather questionable finish to the solemn services of the day.

1810.

Numbering Lunaticks, writing list, and paper, £0 10 6

1813-14.

Inquest on Henry Hoyle, (wild Harry), who died in Musbury, 0 12 0

Repairing Pinfold at Clough-fold, 3 1 9

The "Pinfold" was a large circular enclosure in which strayed sheep and oxen were put, and kept, until claimed by their owner.

The following list is from an old MS. vol. in the possession of the late George Hargreaves, Esq., J.P., Newchurch :—

A LIST OF THE PINDERS FOR CLOUGHFOLD, PINFOLD, WHICH ARE SEVEN IN NUMBER, AND SUCCEED EACH OTHER IN COURSE, AS FOLLOWS :—

Jno. Welsh, clk. (c) for Church Land, 1747.

Oliver Ormerod, for Mr. Hargreave's Land, 1748.

Jno. Piccop, for Mrs. Lonsdale's Land, 1749.

Richd. Ormerod, for Mr. Peter Ormerod's Lower Land, 1750.

James Nuttall, for Jno. Lord, late Heaton's Land, 1751.

Richd. Eastwood, for Mr. Miles Lonsdale's Land, 1752.

Jno. Ormerod, for Mr. Peter Ormerod's higher Land, 1753.

1817.

One Pair of Leg Shackles and Chains, £0 12 9

1819.

Bought a New Rule for Measuring Militia Men with, 0 1 0

This must conclude my extracts from the entries in the Account Book of the "Greave of Rossendale Forest."

By way of pendant to the above, I add a few items taken from the Workhouse accounts for the year 1734-5.

(c) Clerk was formerly the common designation of a clergyman. Mr. Welsh was the Incumbent of Newchurch.



Forest of Rossendale.

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1734.

| | | | |
|---|----|---|---|
| May 25.—Ed. Whitaker, Senr., Eal (Ale) for Sick Persons, .. | £0 | 0 | 2 |
| May 25.—Jam. Robert for Grout, | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Jan. 8.—One Pot of Eal for Hennery Lord Bein not well, .. | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Augt. 10.—Too Quartes of Ele at Rushberrin, | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Augt. 17.—One Bread-fleake for Poor's house, | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| October 11.—For one Lofe for Henry Lord not well, | 0 | 0 | 1 |

1735.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|----|
| Febry. 15.—Stroung Watters for Lettes Hargreaves and Shugar, | 0 | 0 | 2½ |
| March 29.—For one Peyar of Hand Cards for George Warburton, | 0 | 1 | 3 |



CHAPTER III.

"Yet spare I not to ply the pottle
Of jolly goode ale and olde."

BISHOP STILL—*Gammar Gurton's Needle.*

"A nose he had that gan show,
What liquor he loved I trow ;
For he had before long seven yeare,
Beene of the towne the ale-conner."

—*The Cobler of Canterburie.*

"He was a man, take him for all in all,
I shall not look upon his like again."

SHAKESPEARE—*Hamlet.*

IN addition to the Greave of the Forest, other officers are annually appointed at the October sitting of the Halmot Court,—such as a Butcher, a Market-Looker, a Fence-Keeper, a Bellman, and an Ale-Taster.

The office of Ale-taster, or Ale-Conner, as is well known, is a very ancient one, extending as far back as Saxon times. Doubtless, it had its origin with that shrewd, frugal, calculating, paunch-loving people. There is nothing of the Celtic or devil-may-care element in its character. The Celt, to this day, is too spiritualistic, too precipitate, too mercurial, to cater largely for the stomach ; the Saxon is of the earth, earthy.

It was the business of those who filled the post to insure that the ale and beer (a) brewed and sold or offered for sale within their

(a) Andrew Boorde, in his "Dyetary," says : "Ale is made of malte and water. . . . Bere is made of malte, of hoppes and water." This distinction would scarcely hold good at the present day.

district was good and wholesome and of the proper strength. Clearly the office was considered one of much importance in early times. The responsibility was great, and the confidence reposed in the judgment and honesty of the officer equally so. He appears to have depended chiefly, if not solely, on his fine critical taste for enabling him to decide on the quality of the beverage. Before the authorities, his evidence as against the offender was unquestioned.

In former days the Ale-Taster was also the Officer for the Assize of Bread, and the Oath taken by him on Assuming his duties was as follows :—

" You shall swear that you shall well and truly serve the King's Majesty and the lord of this leet in the office of ale-taster, or assisor of this liberty, for this year to come; you shall duly and truly see from time to time that the bread brought to be sold be truly weighed, and that the same do contain such weight, according to the prices of wheat, as by the statute in that case is provided; likewise, you shall have diligent care, during the time of your being in office, to all brewers and tiplers within your office, that they and every one of them do make good and wholesome ale and beer for man's body, and that the same be not sold before it be assayed by you, and then to be sold according to the prices limited and appointed by the King's justices of the peace; and all faults committed or done by the bakers, brewers, or tiplers, or by any of them, you shall make known, and present the same at this court, whereby due punishment may be inflicted upon them for their offences accordingly, and in every other thing you shall well and truly behave yourself in the said office for this year to come. So help you God."

The duties of the Rossendale officer are limited to the testing of the Ale and Beer, and we shall cease to wonder that this vigilant functionary should occasionally overstep the bounds of sobriety, and stumble on the other side—battering his nose on the unfeeling pavement—when we remember that there are within his jurisdiction more than 150 houses licensed for the sale of those drinks.

In the early days the punishment for brewing and publicly exhibiting bad ale was either a fine or a two hours' seat upon the cucking or cuck stool before the culprit's own door; the drink, if

pronounced by a discriminating judge to be *undrinkable*, being handed over to the poor folk.

The duties appertaining to the office (obsolete in most places) were, until within recent years, regularly fulfilled in Rossendale by an officer who did credit to the appointment. I refer to the late Richard Taylor, of Bacup, the Rossendale Ale-taster, who may with propriety be described as "The Last of the Ale-Tasters." As such, he deserves a word of commemoration. "Spindle Dick" he was usually called. The writer knew him personally, and had many a confab with him. Since the first edition of this work was published poor Dick has gone to render his account to a higher Court than that of the Lord of the Honor! He was a fellow of infinite humour, not wanting in sound judgment, but with that kind of twist in his nature that never would allow him for two minutes at a spell to treat any subject in a serious mood. His proper calling was that of a spindle maker, hence his sobriquet of "Spindle Dick;" a rare workman at his trade when he chose, and in his sober hours.

In his hands there was nothing incongruous or far-fetched in the office of Ale-taster. Its duties, incrustated with the antiquity of centuries, came as naturally to him as though he had been living in the time of the Heptarchy, and was "to the manner born." The incongruity was when he forsook, as he occasionally did, his ale-tasting labours, and applied himself assiduously to his business of spindle-making.

Poor Dick Taylor! I always felt grateful to his personality, and to the humour which girt him round. He was a link that bound us to the past; a kind of embodied poetical idea in keeping with the ancient Forest and its traditions. I have more than half a suspicion that he must have been lying dormant for centuries in the muniment-room of Clitheroe Castle, and, like Rip Van Winkle, awoke at length to resume his interrupted duties. I never conversed with him without being carried in imagination back to bygone times, and on such occasions it was with a half-resentful feeling of annoyance that the proximity of a later—shall

we be justified in saying a higher?—civilisation, in the guise of a smoky factory chimney, dispelled the illusion.

After all, it is only in a district like Rossendale that such an interesting relic of the olden time could have survived. To me, when I first knew them, the old people of Rossendale always seemed to differ in many respects from the people of other districts. This was not due to any single cause—there was a variety of circumstances which contributed to the result ; but the chief cause, in my opinion, is to be found in the natural character and formation of the district. By reason of its hills and the wide-reaching moorlands that environ it on every side, it was in earlier days, before the advent of the railway, removed to a large extent from contact with the outer world and the changing fashions and tendencies of wider social conditions. The older representatives of whom I speak are fast dying out, and the younger generation has lost, or is losing, the distinguishing characteristics of the race.

At one time in his career Dick kept a beer-house, the sign over the door being a representation of the globe, with the head and shoulders of a man protruding through it, and underneath it the legend, " Help me through this world !" By way of counteracting any bad moral effects that arose from his vending of beer on week-days, he taught a Bible class in a room over the beer-shop on Sundays. He christened one of his sons " Gentleman," Gentleman Taylor, being determined, as he said, to have one gentleman in the family, whatever else.

When in discharge of the functions of his curious calling of Ale-taster, Dick carried in his coat pocket a pewter gill measure of his own fashioning, of peculiar old-world shape, with a turned ebony wood handle in the form of a cross that projected straight from the middle of the side. This symbol of his office was secured by a leathern thong about half a yard in length, one end being round the handle, the other through a button-hole in his coat. After a day's official work he might occasionally be seen, with unsteady gait, wending his way up the lane to his domicile on the hillside, with the gill measure dangling below his knee.

Not unfrequently he had to appear before the Bench for being drunk and incapable, and though he was sometimes mulcted in five shillings and costs, as often as not some smart sally of wit won the admiration and sympathy of the "Great Unpaid," who let him down as softly as their sense of duty would permit. Dick, on those occasions, would declare that it was his legs only, and not his head that was drunk, which I am inclined to believe was true. He would also assert that he was easily upset when only partially filled, but, when, like a barrel, full to the bung, and end up, he was steady as a rock. As a matter of fact, however, he was not a heavy drinker, whatever his detractors may say to the contrary. His centre of gravity (being raised from his stomach to his head) was displaced by a very limited supply of the beverage.

Regularly as the month of October came round, Dick put in an appearance at the Halmot Court of the Lord of the Manor or Honor held at Haslingden, was reinstalled in his office with due formality, and dined with the other officials of the court when the formal business was concluded.

The following is a copy of a memorial presented by him in October, 1864, to the Court Leet. It contains some touches of dry humour highly characteristic of the man :—

"To the Foreman and Jury of the Halmot Court at Haslingden.
The respectful Memorial of your energetic Ale-Taster for
Rossendale, Richard Taylor.

"Gentlemen,—From a natural bashfulness, and being unaccustomed to public speaking, which my friends tell me is a very fortunate circumstance, I am induced to lay my claims before your honourable court in writing, hoping you will give them your most favourable consideration.

"The appointment which I hold is a very ancient one, dating, as you are aware, from the time of good King Alfred, when the jury at Court Leet appointed their head-boroughs, tithing man, bursholder, and Ale-taster; which appointments were again regulated in the time of Edward III., and through neglect this

important office to a beer-imbibing population ought not to be suffered to fall into disrepute or oblivion.

"In Rossendale there are countless numbers of practical followers of the school to which that illustrious Dutchman, Mynheer Van Dunck, belonged, and while they imbibe less brandy, they make up for it in beer. To some Rossendale men, indeed, beer is meat, drink, washing, and lodging; and do away with the office of Ale-taster, an inferior quality of the beverage may be sold, and the consequent waste of tissue among the working classes would be something awful to contemplate. Your honourable court, then, cannot but perceive the vast importance of my office.

"With the spread of intelligence in Rossendale there has been a proportionate increase of licensed public-houses and beerhouses, which has created a corresponding amount of responsibility in my duties. At the time when Rossendale was in reality a forest, and a squirrel could jump from one tree to another from Sharneyford to Rawtenstall without touching the ground, the office of Ale-taster was no doubt a sinecure, but it is so no longer. For three years I have upheld the dignity of your honourable court as Ale-taster without emolument, stipend, fee, or perquisite of any kind. I have even been dragged before a subordinate court and fined five shillings and costs whilst fulfilling the duties of my office. My great services should receive some slight acknowledgment at your hands, and thus would be secured the upright discharge of those duties you expect me to fulfil; and my imperial gill measure, which I carry along with me as my baton of office, should bear the seal of your honourable court.

"Praying for your kind consideration, I beg to submit this my third annual report:

"In my district are fifty-five licensed public-houses and sixty-five beerhouses. The quality of the beer retailed at these houses is generally good, and calculated to prevent the deterioration of tissue, and I do not detect any signs of adulteration. The only complaint I have to make is of the quality of the ales sold at Newchurch during the week in which Kirk Fair is held; they are not

then quite up to the mark in point of strength and flavour ; but this is an exception, and it is the only speciality that I feel bound to comment upon, save that which immediately concerns your obedient servant, Richard Taylor, Ale-taster for that part of Her Majesty's dominions known as Rossendale."

On a later occasion Mr. Taylor sent in his resignation to the court as follows :—

" To the Foreman and Jury of the Halmot Court at Haslingden, —Gentlemen, I respectfully, but firmly, tender my resignation as Ale-taster of the Forest, an office which I have held for seven years without any salary or fee of any description. During that period I have done my duty both to his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch (b) and to the inhabitants generally. From feelings of humanity I refrain from suggesting anyone as my successor, for unless he possesses an iron constitution, if he does his duty to the appointment, he will either be a dead man before the next court day or he will have to retire with a shattered constitution."

The Court, however, declined to entertain Mr. Taylor's petition, and reappointed him to the office he had so long filled with so much credit to himself—though with very questionable benefit—and to the advantage of the many thirsty souls within his jurisdiction.

Notwithstanding the remark at the opening of the petition, Dick, as a matter of fact, was not altogether unused to public speaking. At town's meetings he frequently held forth, and his rising was always welcomed as the signal for some sensible as well as humorous and sarcastic remarks.

The reference to " Kirk Fair," and to the quality of the ales sold there on those occasions, will be appreciated. I do not know what the Fair may be now, but within my recollection the streets of the village, for three successive days, were thronged with a surging mass of people on pleasure bent. As many of these came long

(b) His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, as has already been explained (see Book Second, Chapter i.) is Lord of the Honor of Clitheroe, of which the Forest of Rossendale constitutes a part.

distances in the heat of summer, with their parched throats and high spirits, they were naturally less critical of the quality of their drink than at ordinary times, and the publicans, with what amount of truth, beyond the declaration of the official Ale-taster, I am not prepared to vouch, were suspected of taking advantage of the circumstances to thin down their ales.

The post of Ale-taster, though still nominally maintained, is in reality obsolete, and could not be revived, even in out-of-the-way places, without committing an anachronism. Even in Dick Taylor's day the office was looked upon as belonging to the past—a relic of a bygone age, in which a different social system to the present prevailed. It belonged to the days of stocks and pillories, of ducking and cucking stools and scolds' bridles, of sluggard wakeners and dog whippers. *Tempora mutantur.* It needed a genial humorist to assume the duties of the office in this latter half of the nineteenth century, and a vulgar imitator would find no favour.

In a wide and populous district the duties, when conscientiously performed, were more than mortal stomach could bear unharmed, even though the paunch were like that of Falstaff, which Dick's was not, and leaving out of account the temptations which beset such an official. Dick took to ale-tasting as a jest, though he performed his duties with an imperturbable gravity which enhanced the fun of the situation. Keen as was his taste for ale, he had a keener relish for the humour of the position. Alas! it was joking perilously near to the edge of a precipice. The last of the Ale-tasters died, a martyr to duty, on the 10th day of October, 1876. *Sic itur ad astra.*



BOOK FIFTH.



CHAPTER I.

"How may we now the truth unfold—
How learn, delighted and amazed,
What never tongue or numbers told—
What hands unknown that fabric raised?"

"A smiling village decks the plain,
Where once the tangled forest frown'd;
And Hodge impels his lab'ring wain
O'er grounds where wolves a shelter found."

IN the immediate neighbourhood of Brandwood, though situated in the township of Lenches, is the hamlet of Rough Lee, in a picturesque and pleasant nook on the hillside, sheltered from the easterly winds by the friendly shoulders of a considerable elevation, and looking far away down the Irwell valley—along which, and over the grassy slopes on either side, it commands a varied and extensive view.

In the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, when the waste of Brandwood was the property of the Abbots of Stanlaw and Whalley, the scenery embraced in a view of the landscape from Rough Lee, was widely different from that which its present prospect comprehends. Where now the Railway winds through the vale, the shrieking whistle of its "iron horse" awaking the echoes on every side—then, the glossy coat of the antlered deer, as in the heyday of its pride it flashed across the glade to thicker covert, or gambolled on

the declivities, was the chief moving attraction that arrested the eye. Now, where the gaunt chimney belches forth its dense black coils of smoke, the Forester's fire, as it consumed the "windfall" of the previous winter, sent up into the clear air of spring its gauzy wreaths of thin blue vapour. And, in the past, instead of a landscape dotted with upland farms, and a valley threaded with long rows of substantial dwellings, their vicinity alive with the hum of youthful voices busy at play, or the cheerful ringing laughter of the factory lasses relieved from their daily toil, a few solitary homesteads were all that gave signs of human habitation.

In this quiet and pleasant spot within the Forest of Rossendale, overlooking the valley, it is said, was erected a house or chapel for the purposes of religious worship. By whom founded, however, and by whom used, no records, so far as we can learn, exist to determine.

Tradition, that strange nonentity—that veritable "wandering Jew" born of the distant past, which haunts us ever with garrulous tongue replete with curious lore and dim undefined utterances that we can never fairly grasp—Tradition would have it that the erection was a kind of lesser convent as well as chapel, and that it could boast a remote antiquity. That most indefatigable of antiquaries and historians, Dr. Whitaker, has nothing to tell us of the chapel at Rough Lee; and Baines, the historian of the county, is equally silent thereanent. Nothing, so far as I am aware, is in print concerning the erection. There is a singularity in all this.

That a Chapel *did* exist at this place we know, though the date of its foundation can only be conjectured. That it was erected in Roman Catholic times, before the Reformation, there is good reason to believe. A lady, to whom more than once I have been indebted for information of this kind, has furnished me with an original memorandum or paper—of which the following is a copy—which she states came into possession of her family more than eighty years ago. It gives an account of the old chapel, and may be relied upon as being authentic :

"The building, 20 yds. long, or thereabouts ; 7 yds. wide within. 2 Doors opposite each other in the Middle of the Building. The Windows as below. [Here is given a rude sketch of an arched and mullioned window.] The Roof supported by Crooks. 2 large stone Troughs ; at each door one. A large stone Pulpit was demolished when the Building was converted to its present use, in the ruins of which some Beads were found. At present it is occupied in 2 Cottages, the Property of Mr. Jopham, of Chester. It is situate at Lench, in the Parish of Bury and Forest of Rossendale, distant from the nearest part of Brandwood about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile."

Fragments of stones, bearing inscriptions, have been dug out of the soil in its vicinity. The place originally may have been used as a Hermitage or dwelling—an offshoot of the parent Abbey of Whalley, where the Monk or Monks in charge of the property of the church in this neighbourhood took up their abode ; and afterwards, as the population of the district began to increase, it probably was adapted to the performance of Divine worship.

There is reason, if not corroborative evidence, in support of this ; for it will scarcely be doubted that the ecclesiastics of those times would be fully alive to the necessity of providing the means of religious edification to the people in their charge, who were far removed from the great centres of the imposing ceremonials of the Church. We have already seen that the Abbot of Whalley, in the time of Henry III, constructed and built a manor-house in the "waste of Brendewode," and that the Manor was held in free, pure, and perpetual alms freed from all charge, excepting only prayers and orisons for the souls of the founders and feoffors, and their ancestors and heirs. True, the site of the Chapel at Rough Lee was without the limits of their landed possessions in this district ; but this fact does not militate against the present conjecture. The "waste of Brendewode" was a bleak and uninviting tract of country, having none of the characteristics of those neighbourhoods usually chosen for the erection of religious structures in past days ; and the Monks, with that unerring instinct



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which led them to pitch their tents in favoured localities with regard to scenery, shelter, and general convenience, would not fail to note the superior position of the site in question to any other within their own dreary domain in Rossendale.

Thus much for Rough Lee, one of those spots of local interest of which just sufficient is known to arouse, but not enough to satisfy, the enquirer's curiosity—too little to give it a fixed habitation in the history of the district, or determine its influence on the current of events. It is like one of those spirits said to haunt old homesteads: content with its own knowledge of the past, it resists all prying attempts to wring from it a recital of its story. A quaint old place that the imagination finds no difficulty in peopling with forms of a bygone time. Such a home of the imagination it must probably remain.

The Old Hall on the New Hall Hey estate, whose ivy-matted walls still stand rugged and strong, is another ancient building regarding the erection of which we are without documentary evidence. The architecture is early Tudor Gothic. The wing of the Hall on the northerly side appears to have been used as a chapel in past times—a religious offshoot, it is said, of Whalley. On the removal of the oak settles and wainscoating in the early part of the present century, a baptismal fount was found, and this relic is still in existence and in possession of Mr. G. W. Law-Schofield, the present owner.



CHAPTER II.

"The church of the village
Gleaming stood in the morning's sheen;
Loud rang the bells, the crowd was assembled,
Far from valleys and hills, to list to the holy preaching."
—LONGFELLOW.

"I always enter this sacred place
With a thoughtful, solemn, and reverent pace."
—IBID.

"These were the pranks she played among th' abodes
Of mortal men."
—SHELLEY.

THE Original Church (or Chapel of ease, as it was called) at Newchurch, was erected in the year 1511, being the 3d year of the reign of Henry VIII., and it is this circumstance that gave rise to the name of the village. It was not made parochial, however, till the 4th of Edward VI., 1550, down to which year the Castle and Church of Clitheroe was the Parish Church of the people of Rossendale. At that time it was in the diocese of Chester, and the following note respecting it is contained in Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis*. (a)

"Newchurch in Rossendale. The Forest of Rossendale was in ye times of H.[enry] 7 and H.[enry] 8 Disforrested, and ye Land was improved, soe yt in 40 years time from 20 persons ye people were encreased to 1,000, who built a Chap.[el] for themselves and maintained a Minister. V.[idel] *Deed* [in] *New Reg.[ister].*

"This Chap.[el.] wch is sd to belong to ye Parish of Clitheroe, from wch it was 12 m.[iles] (b) distant, was made Parochial by K.[ing] Edw [ard] 6, and called

(a) Chetham Society's Publications, vol. III., p. 340, *et. seq.*

(b) Actually 14 statute miles distant, as the crow flies.

by ye name of ye Chap.[el] of our Saviour, wth a parcell of ground enclosed wth a hedge, called ye Chap.[el] Yard, to have all Offices performed in it as in any Par.[ish] Church; [The] People to maintain that Curate who is to be named by the B.[ishop] of [the] Diocese. V.[ide] *Order of [the] Dutchy Court, New Reg.[ister.]*

"Certif[ied] 23l. 10s. 00d., viz., 20l. Rent Charge upon Copyhold Lands, part of wch being now Mortgaged is dubious; surp.[lice] fees 3l. 10s.

"8 Wardens.

"8 m.[iles] from Whalley (c); 2 m.[iles] from [the] next Ch.[apel]."

The following note is added by Canon Raines :—

"Dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Value in 1834, £231. Registers begin in 1654.

"On the 11th of July, 1515, the Curate of 'Rossyngdale' paid XXd. to the Archdeacon of Chester for his admission to the Curacy. (d) 292."

The first structure was of meagre dimensions and humble in character, suited to the wants and worldly estate of a scanty and not wealthy people.

The following is a copy of a decree of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster of the fourth year of King Edward VI., decreeing the Chapel in Rossendale to have all such rights and privileges as Parish Churches then had, and containing interesting reference to the disforesting of the Forest.

"Whereas it appears by a Bill of Supplication of the Inhabitants of Rossendale, that the Forrest of Rossendale 44 years ago or thereabouts, being replenished with a few and small number of People, or in manner none at that time did Inhabit other then the forresters and such other as were appointed to and for the oversight of the Deer; and that the late excellent Princes and Kings of worthy and famous memory, King Henry the 7th and King Henry the 8th, by the advice of their most Honble. Counsels, most graciously considered, that if the Deer were taken out of and from the said forrest, that then the same was like to come and be brought and applyed to some good purpose, as the Commonwealth might be increased thereby; and therefore the said Kings gave in commandmt., and caused not only that the said Deer should be killed and destroyed, but also, that the ground within the said forrest should be letten out to such of the Inhabitants as wou take the

(c) As the crow flies, the distance is 11 statute miles.

(d) *Lanc. MSS. Vol. IX.*

same, and had made thereof to the intent the same forrest might, for the great increase of God's glory and the Commonwealth of this Realme, be Inhabited; and by force thereof and to that intent, the said Forrest was disforrested and granted, demised and let forth, in divers sorts, some part for term of years, and part to hold by copie of Court Roll, after which Leases and grants as is aforesd. had and made, the said Inhabitants and takers thereof have Edified and Buildded houses and Tents within the said Forrest, and have inhabited the same; so that where before that time was nothing else but Deer and other savage and wild beasts, there is since then, by the industry and labour of the Inhabits, grown to be a very good and fertile ground; and the same at this day is become very populous, and well inhabited, and replenished with a great number of people.—And for as much as the Castle and Church of Clitheroe, being their Parish Church, is distant 12 miles (e) from the said Forrest, and the way leading between the said Parish Church and the said forrest is very foule, painfull, and Hillous, and the country in the winter season is so extreemly and vehemently cold, that the Children and young Infants in that time of the year, being borne to the Church to be Christened, are in great peril of their lives and almost starved with cold; the aged and impotent persons, and women great with child, are not able to travail so far to hear the Word of God, and to learn and be instructed therein, to do their duties to God and to their King; and the dead corpses there like to Lye and remain unburied, at such time as any that doth die and depart this world, for lack of carriage, untill such time as great annoyance do grow to the King's subjects there, by reason that the said Parish Church is so far distant from the said forrest and the ways so foule.—And whereas also, before this time, the premises considered, the Inhabitants of the said forrest, about the space of 38 years past or thereabouts, at their own proper costs and charges, made a Chapel of ease in the said Forrest of Rossendale. The charges of every of them in the said Chapel hath been from time to time to an honest minister, who hath with all diligence ministered to the said inhabitants there, in the said Chapel, God's most holy Word. Also the said Chapel and the said minister hath been sustained and maintained by and with the good devotions and charitable rewards of the well-disposed Inhabitants of the said forrest. And every of the said Inhabitants have given several sums of money, some more, some less—some money, some Chattell, and some of 'em such other gifts and rewards as hath been meet, requisite, and needfull, to and for the intent and purpose of maintenance of the said Chapel and Minister as the commodity and profit of those things given as are before remembered, have sufficed to the sustaining of the said Chapel, and finding of the minister there.

(e) The actual distance, as the crow flies, is 14 statute miles.

The said inhabitants have of their good Devotions and Charity's borne their own costs and charges, whereby there hath grown no kind of discommodity, charge, or hurt, either to the King's Majesty, or to the Parson or Curate of their Parish Church before mentioned; but the same Chapel hath been therewith mentained, and kept of their own several charges, costs, and expences, to the better serving of God and the King, and for the Augmentation and increase, as well of great number of people, as of the Commonweale of this Realm, in so much as by reason thereof the lands within the said forrest, which served before that time but only for the increase of wild beasts, now not only well and substantially manured and occupied, to the increase of tillage, corn, and cattle, but also to the great increase of people and Christian souls; for which there was at the time of the disforresting of the forrest, not above the number of 20 persons in the said forrest, there be in the said forrest at this present day, the number of 1000 young and old people; of the which people, as of their bound and humble duties, hath required the King his highness, from time to time, hath been as well served in his Gracious most regal affairs of his wars, as in any one place within all his highness' dominions; and for divers other great causes and considerations, the King his highness, and his Council of the Dutchy of Lancaster moving.—It is ordered and decreed by the Chancellor and Council of the Dutchy, that the Inhabitants of the said forrest, and the Inhabitants of the Lenches, Cowpe, Brandwood, Rockcliffe, Greaveclough, and Tongue, adjoining and intermingled to and with the said Forrest, for the more ease and quietness, and in avoiding their peril in Travell aforesd., and that God may be the better served, shall from henceforth have, use, and enjoy the said Chapel above specified within the said forrest, together with one parcell of ground, inclosed and invironed with a hedge, called the Chappell yard, for ever. And that the said Chapel shall from henceforth be and remain for ever as a Church within the Forrest of Rossendale; so that the people dwelling and inhabiting within the said Forrest and other the places above mentioned, shall and may at all times hereafter assemble together in the said Chapel to hear divine service, and every thing and things which now be, or hereafter shall be, set forth by the King's highness, his heirs, and successors, for the service of God, and his highness, and receive the most Holy and Blessed Communion and supper of our Lord; and there also to receive Christendome, Matrimony, Burial, and all other Sacraments and Ordinances of Holiness, and all other thing and things as now be, or hereafter shall be commanded by our said Sovereign Lord the King his Majestie, his heirs, or successors, to be done, frequented, and used in the said Chapel, as within other Parish Churches within the said County of Lancaster.—And that it shall be lawfull to and for the Inhabitants aforesaid for the time being from hence forth, from time to

time for ever, to find one able and honest Priest or Minister, to say, set forth, and minister God's most holy Word, and all the King's Majesty's ordinances and Injunctions; and there to minister all Sacramts. and Sacramentalls within the said Chapel, which now be or hereafter shall be appropriated, allowed, and set forth by the King's highness, his heirs or successors. And that it shall be lawfull to the said Minister or Priest for the time being, which shall be so found by the Inhabitants of the said forrest and other places aforesd., to say and minister God's Holy Word, divine service, and all other the King's Majesty's ordinances, which now be or hereafter shall be set forth by the King's highness, his heirs, or successors; and to minister Sacraments and Sacramentalls within the said Chapel and Chapel yard in such manner and form as is and shall be done and used in Parish Churches within the said County of Lancaster. And that all such Infants as shall be hereafter born and brought forth within the said forrest and other places before rehearsed shall and may be Christened within the said Chapel by the Minister or Priest there, for the time being. And that all such as shall happen hereafter to dye and depart this world within the said forrest and other places aforementioned, shall and may be buried within the said Chapel or Chapel yard, at the will and election of the said Inhabitants of the said forrest and other places above rehearsed.—And that it shall be lawfull to and for the Inhabitants of the said forrest and other places above mentioned, to employ and bestow such Stock of goods, Chattels, and money, together with the profits of the increase and revenues of the same chattels, goods, and money as heretofore hath been given and willed to go and be employed to or for the finding of the said Priest or Minister for the time being, to say and minister Divine service within the Chapel aforesd. for ever, upon the said Priest or Minister which shall be there found and kept for the time being. And that it shall be lawfull to and for the said Inhabitants and every of them, to give goods, Chattels, and money, to go and be bestowed and employed towards and for the finding and maintaining of the said Priest or Minister for the time being, to be found to say and minister divine service within the said Chapel for ever; saving that the parson of the parish of Rochdale and his successors for the time being shall have all such profits and duties as they or any of them of right have had or used to have in times past within the said forrest and other places aforesd. in like manner and form as if this Decree or Order had never been had or made.—And it is further Ordered and Decreed by the said Chancellor and Counsel of the said Court of the Dutchy, that it shall be lawfull to and for the Ordinary of the Diocese there for the time being, from time to time, when and so often as any Avoydance shall be by any manner of means of a Minister, able, meet, and convenient to serve the said Town, and to be minister in the said Chapel, to appoint, name, and send one discreet, able, meet, and

convenient Minister to serve the said Town, and to minister in the said Chapel; and that the said Minister so appointed and sent thither by the said Ordinary for the time being, shall by the said Inhabitants for the time being be received, taken, and used as Minister there; and the ministration there shall have and enjoy so long as he shall be of good behaviour, conversation, and usage in the ministration and serving of the said Town."

The following tradition exists concerning the original Church of 3rd Henry VIII. It would appear that the intention of the founders was to build it on or near to the site of the old Workhouse at Mitchellfield-nook, and that the materials for the structure were deposited at that place—when one morning it was discovered that the whole had been transported overnight by some unseen power to the hill-side on which the Church stands.

Not to be diverted from their purpose, the inhabitants again conveyed the materials to the place which they had originally fixed upon, and appointed a watch to frustrate any further attempts at removal. But one night as "Dogberry" slumbered at his post—an enchanted sleep, probably—the unseen hands had again been busy, with similar results.

A third time the materials were deposited on the chosen site, and, on this occasion, three of the inhabitants appointed to keep watch and ward. As these sat toasting their noses at a wood fire they had kindled, an old lady, with kindly countenance, coming past, saluted them with a pleasant "good e'en," at the same time offering them each a share of some refreshment which she carried in her hand. This they had no sooner partaken of, than a profound drowsiness overtook them, ending in a deep and protracted sleep—from which in the morning they were aroused by the shouts of the bewildered rustics, who came only to find that the pranks had a third time been repeated. So, yielding to the decision of a power which was not to be out-manceuvred, the builders erected the Church on its present site. (f)

(f) A somewhat similar legend exists in connection with the old churches at Rochdale and Burnley. See Roby's *Traditions of Lancashire*, and also Harland and Wilkinson's *Lancashire Folk Lore*, p. 89.

In the year 1560, the 3d of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the original building having become inadequate to the accommodation of a rapidly-increasing population, was taken down and replaced by a more substantial erection. This latter served for a period of one hundred and ninety-three years, viz., till the year 1753, when an addition was made to the structure by Mr. John Ormerod of Tunstead, and Mr. John Hargreaves of Newchurch, under a Faculty granted for that purpose by the Bishop of Chester. The following extract from the memorial to the Bishop for the requisite authority, supplies the particulars for this enlargement :—

"TO THE RIGHT REV. EDMUND, BY DIVINE PERMISSION, LORD
BISHOP OF CHESTER.

"THE HUMBLE PETITION of JOHN ORMEROD of Tunstead and JOHN
HARGREAVES of Newchurch in Rossendale in the County of Lan-
caster, and Diocess of Chester, Gentn.

"Sheweth, that whereas through the great increase of the Inhabitants of the Chapelry aforesaid, the Chapel of Newchurch is much too small to contain the number of Inhabitants resorting thither for Divine Worship, and several of them want convenient Seats for themselves and families in the said New Church; and therefore your Petitioners humbly pray authority may be granted to them, at their own costs, to take down the East End of the said New Church, and enlarge the same Eastwards in length seven yards, and to build a Gallery within the same with seats therein, and a convenient Staircase leading into the said Gallery from the Chapel yard, and also for removing the Communion Table from the place where it now stands, and placing the same at the East End of the intended new Erection, with like authority to erect Seats in consideration of removing the Communion Table, that is to say, to lengthen and add to the pews now standing on each side of the Communion Table. And for disposing of such additional Seats, and also of the Seats in the new Erection, to such Persons as want the same at reasonable Rates proportioned to the Goodness or Conveniency of the Seats, and the charge to be expended in this Behalf.

"(Signed) JOHN ORMEROD.
JOHN HARGREAVES.

"Dated 1st January, 1753.



VIEW (FROM A PAINTING) OF THE CHURCH WHICH FORMERLY STOOD ON
THE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, NEWCHURCH.

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Henry and Henry, Photo.

Hastingden.

VIEW (FROM A PAINTING) OF THE CHURCH WHICH FORMERLY STOOD ON
THE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, NEWCHURCH.

"We, the undersigned, are consenting that the Petitioners have such Faculty granted them, and we certify that the same will be of great use and Benefit.

| | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| "(Signed) JOHN WELSH, minister. RICHARD EASTWOOD, LAW. ORMEROD, JNO. ASHWORTH, JNO. ASHWORTH, JNO. LORD, DANIEL EASTWOOD, JAMES ASHWORTH, HENRY HOYLE, | } | Chapel Wardens." |
|---|---|------------------|

A Faculty was granted for the enlargement of the Chapel in compliance with this petition, with authority for the said John Ormerod and John Hargreaves to sell and dispose of the additional pews for the purpose, in part, of repaying the costs and expenses incurred by them ; and many pews were so disposed of to various of the Inhabitants.

The building becoming dilapidated, it was in the year 1824-5 taken down, rebuilt, and again enlarged. This is commemorated on a Tablet within the building as follows :—

" This Church was enlarged and rebuilt, 1825, when 453 additional sittings were provided, and 227 rendered free by means of a grant from the Society for enlarging and Rebuilding Churches and Chapels."

On its consecration in 1826, the Church was dedicated to St. Nicholas. Its architecture is substantial in character, with but little elaboration. Its position is an elevated and pleasant one ; and with the village in its rear, and the green slope of the hill of Seatnaze in the background, it constitutes, when viewed from the opposite side of the valley, an attractive and charming picture. In the tower is a peal of Six Bells. Some years ago the Ringers of Newchurch were favourably known for their precision and skill in ringing the different changes, and frequent contests were held with the Ringers of other towns ; but of recent years these competitive meetings have not taken place.

About the date of the erection of the original building, a beneficent widow lady, by name Lettice Jackson, vested in feoffees for the use of the New Church of our Saviour in Rossendale, certain lands in different parts of the district.

"An. [no] 3 H.[enry] 8, Lettice Jackson, Widow, Surrendered Land for ye Use of this Chap.[el] now worth (an.[no] 1718,) 40l. p.[er] an.[num.] Only 20 of wch is now enjoyed by ye Curate, the Case being still depending in [the] Dutchy Chamber. V.[ide] *Commission of Char.[itable] Uses*, an.[no] 1665. *New Reg.[ister.]*

"An.[no] 1724, [The] Chanc[ellor] of ye Dutchy, wth Ld Ch.[ief] J. [ustice] King and Mr Reeves, Assistants, unanimously Decreed ye Lands in Question (being by Estimation 150 Statute acres) to ye Church, wth mean profits and costs." (g)

"These," remarks Dr. Whitaker, "the commissioners of chantries, either from their inconsiderable value at that time, or for some other reason which we are not acquainted with, forbore to seize upon, (an instance of forbearance never practised by them in any other case), and decreed that Lawrence Ashworth should hold and occupy the place of parson of the said Church.

"These lands, though some part of them appears to have been lost by the neglect, or something worse than neglect, of the feoffees, were valued in the latter end of the last century but one, at £50 per annum; and form the endowment of the Chapel, the most valuable curacy in the patronage of the vicar of Whalley." (h)

I am favoured with a communication from Mr. Phillips, the late Rector, which satisfactorily accounts for the non-seizure of the New Church lands by the Chantry Commissioners. Mr. Phillips states that,—

"The lands in question were surrendered to King Henry VIII., the then lord of the manor, by Lettice Jackson, the owner, to be delivered again to certain Trustees for the use of herself and Richard Whitworth—whom she afterwards married—and the

(g) *Bishop Gastrell's Notitia Cestriensis*, Chetham's Society's Pub., vol. xxi. p. 341.

(h) *Hist. Whalley*, 3d Ed., p. 224.

longer liver of the two; and after their decease to the use of the Incumbent of New Church for ever.

"This Richard Whitworth was still living when the Chantry Commission was issued: so that the lands, being at that time a lay fief, were not subject to the operation of the Chantry Act.

"The original surrender mentions lands at Fryer Hill; but as no such lands are now attached to the Incumbency, it is probable that these are what Dr. Whitaker alludes to as having been lost by the neglect, or something worse than neglect, of the feoffees."

Canon Raines puts the matter in a somewhat different light. He says:—

"Dr. Whitaker expresses some surprise that the Commissioners of Chantries did not seize upon these lands; but he appears to have forgotten that Newchurch was not a Chantry, but a Chapel of Ease to the Castle Church of Clitheroe, and therefore the Chantry Commissioners had no power to divert the pious gift of Lettice Jackson.

"In the year 1664 Thomas Sanders, Clerk, Minister of Rossendale, was complainant, and Christopher Nuttall and Lydia his wife, defendants, in a Plea before the Commissioners for Charitable Uses. The defendants, in their answer, deny that Lettice Jackson had power to give the lands in question to the said charitable use; and stated that being a suit pending in the Duchy Court between James Kershaw, Clerk, Curate of Newchurch, plaintiff, and John Nuttall, (father of the said Lydia, wife of the said Christopher,) defendant, the same came to a hearing on the 4th of May, 5th James, (1607,) and the Chancellor decreed that the lands should be surrendered to the said John Nuttall and his heirs, for ever, charged with twenty marks a year to the said Kershaw, so long as he should be Minister there; and afterwards, that £20 a year should be paid to every succeeding Minister who should say and read Divine Service there. This decision was reversed in the year 1724. In the year 1650 this Newchurch is described as a Parochial Chapelry, embracing three hundred families, and being twelve miles from the Parish Church.

Mr Robert Dewhurst, an able Minister, 'hath no allowance at all from the State but what the Inhabitants bestowe upon him on their own accord.' They humbly desire that their Chapelry may be made a Parish, and a competent maintenance allowed for a Minister. (i) Here is no mention of the lands, which were doubtless withheld from the Church at this time by the Trustees, and not restored until the year 1724, which is the 'worse than neglect' alluded to by Dr. Whitaker, (j) who observes that the lands were valued at the latter end of last century but one, (the seventeenth,) at the £50 per annum; whilst Mr Baines, omitting the words 'but one,' gives that as their value in the eighteenth century."

This clears up an obscure point in the history of the New Church. It is satisfactory to know that it was not owing to their being of a comparatively valueless character, that the lands were left intact.

The whole proceedings in respect to the Chantry possessions were so arbitrary and unjustifiable, that we are pleased to be disabused of the notion that in any one instance the King and the Commissioners were disposed to act with generosity. It is quite evident that exceptional causes alone prevented the possessions of "the New Church of Rossendale" from being swallowed up like others of a similar nature.

The following is a list of the Incumbents of the New Church, from its foundation in 1511 (k). The first incumbent mentioned is—

George Gregory.

Lawrence Ashworth, 1548.

James Kershaw, occurs 1607.

William Horrocks, 1622; died, 1641.

——— Armistead.

——— Brown.

(i) Parl. Inq. Lamb. MSS.

(j) Hist. Whalley, p. 224.

(k) An attempt has been made, on altogether insufficient grounds, to show that between Robert Dewhurst, mentioned 1650, and Thomas Sanders, who was installed in 1662, another incumbent, bearing the name of Kippax, held

——Moor.

——Davis.

Robert Dewhurst, mentioned 1650.

Thomas Sanders, Dec. 16, 1662.

Thomas Leigh, B.A., Nov. 1695.

John Welsh, July 29, 1726.

John Shorrock, M.A., Feb. 1767.

Nicholas Rigby Baldwin, M.A., 1802.

Philip Abbot, 1825; resigned, 1833; died 1852.

Edward Burrow, 1833.

John Bartholomew Phillips, M.A., 1850; resigned 1891.

Herbert Bury, M.A., 1891 (the present Rector).

The late Rector, the Rev. J. B. Phillips, M.A., to whose politeness I am indebted for the foregoing list, observes that there does not appear to have been any fixed Incumbent from 1641, till Dewhurst was confirmed in his position by a Lambeth Inquisition, held in the year 1650; but that Armistead, Brown, Moor, and Davis, appear to have officiated between Horrocks's death in 1641, and Dewhurst's appointment. By the Inquisition referred to, it is found "that the Chapel of Newchurch in Rossendale is parochial, the chapelry consisting of Dedwen Clough, Tunsted, Wolfenden Booth, and part of Wolfenden and Bakcop, which contain, in all, 300 families, desiring to be made a parish: that the minister received no allowance but what was paid by the inhabitants."

This list differs in some respects from that given by Dr. Whitaker in his History. With reference to this latter, Mr. Phillips remarks that he has a copy of the Document from which the Doctor seems to have derived his authority, but that evidence in his possession proves this to be incorrect: amongst other proof, a monogram which he found inserted in a wall of the old the appointment at Newchurch. Further, that this said Mr. Kippax resigned the living on the passing of the Act of Uniformity in the latter year, and that he either formed, or had a hand in forming, the Nonconformist Church in Rossendale. I have diligently searched the Registers at Newchurch for the year 1662, and for many years both before and after, and can find no record whatever of the name, Kippax.

Parsonage at Cloughfold, put there by Horrocks in 1629. Dr. Whitaker places the latter after Lawrence Ashworth, and before James Kershaw, who held the benefice in 1607. But, says Mr. Phillips, the Doctor always repudiated any responsibility for the accuracy of things of this nature, which were forwarded to him by others.

The Benefice was raised from the status of a parochial chapelry to that of a Rectory in 1867, by Order in Council.

In one of the Chethem Society's publications (*l*) is contained a copy of the last Will and Testament of the first-mentioned Incumbent, or priest, George Gregory. It is exceedingly quaint, casting light on the economy and habits of the early dwellers in the Forest.

"THE WILL OF SIR (*m*) GEORGE GREGORY, PRIEST.

"In the name of God, Amen. 5th April 1548. I Sir George Gregore, of Rossandayle within the com. of Lancaster, priest, sycke in boddye, &c. . . . To be buryd in the parish church yorde of Haslyngden. My dettes taykyne uppe and payde, and my bodye extynegused honestly wayket, broghfurth and buryd. I bewethe to Sr. Henry Romsbotham, priest, to pray devoutly for the salvatyon of my saylle, and all xpiane (*n*) saylles 3s. 4d. To John Pycoppe, the sone of John Pycoppe, one horse foolle. Also to John Pycoppe his selphe, and Ellonr. his wyffe, one mattresse and too of my best covrlettes. To Sr. Thomas Holden, priest, and Rychard Gregorye my brother, all my pt. of those yves (*o*) wvch standyne att the Wolfenden Bothe with Edmun Horsworth. To John Nuttow all my pt. of those yves wvch standyne with him, and 7s. 6d. of money wvch is in his hande. To the wyffe of Robt. Durden one holde black coverlett. To John Gregorye my brother, one holde payre of blacke hoosse and one holde jackett. To George Durden one leythor doblet. To the sayd Sr. Thoms Holden one holde blacke clooke. To Agnes Harppe, vf my dettes be recovyde, 3s. 4d. To 4re schyldrn (*p*) of the afore sayd John Pycoppe, echon 12d. To the sedenayse (*q*) chappell in Rossendayle, that the decaes yr of may be better uphuldyne and my saylle

(*l*) Lancashire and Cheshire Wills and Inventories from the Ecclesiastical Court, Chester, vol. li. p. 199.

(*m*) The title "Sir" was formerly given to clergymen who had taken a University degree, and it is still retained in the University rolls.

(*n*) Christian. (*o*) Beehives. (*p*) Children. (*q*) Seat Naze.

prayde fore yr for evr 3s. 4d. ffynally, what so evr remaynyth of my gudds, &c. I bewethe it to the sayd Sr. Thomas Holden, priest, John Nuttow yema, and Rychard Gregorye my brother to take the paynes to be my executors. In wyttenes whereof to these presents I have subscribed my name the day and yere above rehersed. Thes wyttenes Sr. Thoms Holden, curet, Rycd Harppe, Olvyr Holt, Edmnd Pycoppe, and John Pycoppe.

"SR. GEORGE GREGORYE +

"*Hec sunt debita quæ ego debeo.* The schappell of Rossendayle 13s. 4d. Edmnd Pycoppe 13s. 4d. *Hec sunt debita quæ mihi debentr.* John alias Jenkyne Lord 30s. Perys Hey 5s. Sr. Rycrd Mychell, priest, 3s. 4d. Ells Holt 2s. Henr Hey 18d. Relcta John Butterworth 12d. The chapell ryves of Rossendayle 3re watrs wayges, that is to say Wylyham Hasworth 8s. 3d. John Nuttow 9d. Alexandr Haworth, 8s. 3d. John Tatttsall 8s. 7d. ob. Ryc Wytteworth 7s. 10d. ob. Xpof Brygche 7s. 10d. ob.

"The Invetorye of the gud of Sr. George Gregorye, priest, prsed with Alexander Haworth, John Tatttsall, Thurston Bertwyssell, and John Pycoppe. In *primis*, one foole 10s. 7 yardes of carssay 9s. 4d. 3 covrlettes 3s. 6d. One mattresse 2s. One holde gawne 2s. 8d. One holde clooke 2s. One leyther dublet 20d. 2 holde jackettes 3s. 4d. 2 holde cappes 16d. One holde sacke 6d. 2 yves 6s. 8d. One holde saddell 6d."

We learn from this singular Will, that Bees were kept in Boothfold, Rossendale, during the 16th century. But though the district is still favourable to the production of the finest quality of honey—for this, when gathered from a heathy country, is esteemed for its peculiarly rich and delicate flavour—it would scarcely yield the commodity in such abundance as to repay the cultivator. This, and the growing of grain, which a century ago was common in Rossendale, notwithstanding the uncongenial soil and climate, are a department of economy which, in this district, has succumbed before the more profitable pursuits of the Woollen and Cotton Manufacture and the attendant occupations to which these of necessity have given rise. Where agriculture is here still pursued as a source of profit, it is altogether confined to the produce of the dairy, which will always command a ready market in a populous and thriving neighbourhood.

In Vol. XII. of The Record Society a list is given of "Contributions from the Clergy of the Diocese of Chester, 1622,

towards the recovery of the Palatinate,"^(r) The list is copied from the private MS. ledger of John Bridgman, D.D., Bishop of Chester. Under the heading, "In Blackburn Deanery," the following entry occurs :—

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|------|
| | li. | s. | d. |
| Lect. de Rossendall Mr. Kershaw | - | 2 | 10 0 |

The whole of the Deanery contributed the sum of £22 1s. od., and the contribution of Mr. Kershaw, who was at that time Incumbent of Newchurch, and in the last year of his incumbency, is the largest in the list; a circumstance that goes to prove the relative importance of the Parish of Newchurch in those days.

In the same volume is contained "The Assessment of the Clergy of Lancashire for the Ship Money, 1635,"^(s) and under the heading, "Blackburn Hundred, the Taxinge of the Ministry towards the Shipp of Warr," is the entry as follows :—

Rossendale iiijs [4/-].

The Rev. William Horrocks was Incumbent of Newchurch at that time.

(r) This has reference to the struggle to regain for Frederic, son-in-law of James I., the State on the Upper Rhine called the Palatinate. The daughter of James I had married Frederic, the Prince of the Palatinate, in 1613. This Prince, who was a Protestant, had been chosen King by the people of Bohemia instead of their former King, Ferdinand, who was a Catholic. The latter, however, raised an army and dethroned Frederic, driving him not only out of Bohemia, but also out of the Palatinate. This war is called "The Thirty Years War," as it lasted from 1618 to 1648, and it was in prosecution of the attempt to win back the province for Frederic that the special taxes above referred to were raised.

(s) The "Ship Money," as the tax for the building and equipping ships of war was called, as is well known, was one of those impositions made by Charles I. upon the people at his pleasure, without the sanction of Parliament, and the payment of which was resisted by John Hampden, as an illegal tax, but which was eventually declared legal by place-hunting and servile judges, to their eternal dishonour.

Of Thomas Sanders, Incumbent of Newchurch, who died in 1695, the following account appears in the parochial register: "Tho. Sanders presbyter, Christi Dni nostri servus humilimus, honestis moribus præditus ecclesiæ Anglicanæ pastor vigilantissimus, artium bonarum studiosissimus, in hac gente rusticâ Rossendaliæ, per spatium 33 annorum plus minus commoratus est. Qui per varios casus longo tempore jactatus deinde in patriam suam nativam Com. Cest. discessit. Et ipsâ horâ in qua domum suam ingressus est, pacificæ inter familiares expiravit. Sepultus apud Mag. Budworth, 9^o die Nov. 1695."

At the time of the appointment of Mr Shorrock, a contest, extending over a period of three years, for the right of the patronage of this valuable living, took place between Dr Keene, the Bishop of Chester; the Archbishop of Canterbury; and Mr. Johnson, who was Vicar of Whalley at the time, and claimed the right of presentation. The Decree of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, in the 4th of Edward VI., certainly confers upon the Ordinary the right to nominate a minister; but as the original of this decree could not be found, after diligent search, the Diocesan gave way to the paramount claims of the Vicar.

Extracts from the correspondence which ensued are given by Dr. Whitaker from the Letters left by Mr Johnson at his decease. I have taken the liberty to incorporate them in these pages. The letters, apart from their Local Historical value, are models of their kind, and will be acceptable to many readers.

"TO THE BISHOP OF CHESTER.

Oct. 20th, 1762.

"MY LORD,—I was this morning surprised with an account of Mr S. being refused a license to the Curacy of Rossendale upon my nomination; for what reason I cannot conceive, since I apprehend there can be no doubt of my right. It is very extraordinary that there should be no claims of this kind before my time, and so many since. I cannot recollect that anything has been done since I became Vicar to prejudice the rights and privileges of the Rectory of Whalley, but much in support of them;

so that, if ever the right of nomination to Rossendale Chapel belonged to the Vicars of Whalley, it still remains so ; and whoever the person is that pretends to a right of nomination may with equal justice dispute his Grace of Canterbury's right of presentation of the Vicarage of Whalley, and is as well entitled to the one as the other.

"Not to trouble your Lordship any longer on the subject, I should be glad your Lordship would do me the honour to inquire into the reasons why my Clerk has been rejected, and why my antagonist is concealed from me, seeing I cannot well proceed before I know my adversary, and am desirous of putting an end to this dispute with all expedition, as it is a populous chapelry, and the parishioners may suffer inconvenience for want of a minister, &c.,
W. JOHNSON."

"SIR,—I have received your letter, expressing your surprise that your nomination to Rossendale Chapel is not accepted, because there can be no doubt of your right. In your mind there is none ; but in others' there is, or you would not have met with obstruction. You say the person who litigates this point with you might as well litigate the Archbishop's right to the presentation of the Vicarage of Whalley ; but that is not likely to be ; for it is the Archbishop himself, who, on having been applied to by various persons for the Curacy, has looked into his papers, and thinks he has a right and means to prosecute it ; and why they, who refused Mr S. his license, should have concealed it, I cannot tell, for it was not intended to be a secret by any one.

"I must acquaint you further, that since the Archbishop has entered his caveat, I have reason to think that I have some right to the Chapel ; and if the arguments should prove as solid as they appear specious, I shall prosecute my right against his Grace and you too.

"Notwithstanding what I have said, unless I am well satisfied in my own mind that my claim is well grounded, I will not create you vexation and expense ; and I am sure I can venture to affirm the same of my friend the Archbishop, &c.,
E. CHESTER."

"TO HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP (SECKER) OF CANTERBURY.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—I am concerned to hear, by a letter from my good Lord of Chester, that your Grace is the person who has entered a caveat against my nomination to Rossendale Chápel—an adversary I did not expect ; and moreover, should I get clear of your Grace, his Lordship is so generous as to declare that I am in some danger from him. It would have pleased me better to have had less powerful opponents ; but since it happens so, neither your Grace nor his Lordship will, I hope, be offended at my doing my utmost in defence of what I think my right. And if your Grace would honour me with your reasons for opposing me, it would add to the favours received by

"W. JOHNSON."

"LAMBETH, *Nov. 11th, 1762.*

"SIR,—My reason for desiring that the Bishop of Chester would not immediately license any person to serve the Cure of Rossendale, was, that applications were made to me as Patron of it, the Impropiator being thought to be such of common right, and the nomination to the Chapels being expressly reserved to the Archbishop, in the lease of the Rectory,

"I have not hitherto been able to inform myself sufficiently concerning the strength of this argument : but I am very willing to hear anything which you have to allege on the other side, and hope a contest by law may thus be prevented : but if it cannot, your endeavours to defend your claim will give no offence to, &c.,

T. CANTERBURY."

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—It appears that the Vicar of Whalley for the time being has always nominated to the Chapels within the Rectory of Whalley ; nor have any of your Grace's predecessors, of whom I have seen several (and most of the Chapels have been vacant in my time) ever made any claim.

"The nomination to the Chapels being expressly reserved to the Archbishop in the lease of the Rectory, can only be intended as a bar to the Lessee, who, without such an exception, might possibly

be entitled to the patronage both of the Vicarage and Chapels ; but by such a reservation, the Archbishop's right is secured, which right by his Grace's presentation devolved upon the Vicar, he being instituted and inducted to all and singular the rights, privileges, &c., thereunto belonging. This I apprehend to be the situation of all livings improper. I know no instance of an Incumbent not nominating to the Chapels under him, except where his right has been legally alienated.

" I would not presume to make the least encroachment on your Grace's right ; and it gives me great uneasiness that there should be any doubt, at this day, to whom the nomination belongs, &c.,

W. JOHNSON."

" TO THE BISHOP OF CHESTER.

" MY LORD,—As, probably there may never again be a Vicar of Whalley in circumstances to assert his rights, I would willingly fix them on such a footing as to put them out of the power of dispute.

" If your Lordship's pretensions have no other foundation than the Decree supposed to be passed in the Duchy Court, I am persuaded that the rights and privileges of the Rectory of Whalley are in no danger, as that Decree contains nothing that can affect them ; and for this plain reason, because neither Patron nor Incumbent are parties ; and therefore nothing foisted into the Decree, by artifice or iniquity, can operate so as to vest a right in your Lordship against the Vicar.

W. JOHNSON."

The correspondence between the disputants ended with the following Letter from Dr. Keene, the Bishop of the Diocese :—

" REV. SIR,—The contest between you and me, concerning the patronage of the Church in Rossendale, took its rise accidentally from some papers being found while my officers were searching into the claim of the Archbishop.

" When the different foundations of my right were drawn together they did appear to me, and others whom I consulted, to be of validity enough to form a pretension to the nomination of that Chapel, and I then acquainted you with such my intention.

"After I despaired of finding the original Decree, I stated my case, and laid my materials before Mr. Wilbraham with a resolution either of proceeding at Law, or desisting from my claims, as his opinion should direct me ; and as it is his opinion that the materials I produced would not support a trial at Bar, I did immediately determine to give up my pretensions.

"I should at that time have written to you and declared my readiness to license your Clerk, if I had not thought it incumbent upon me to enquire whether the Archbishop had still any objections to your nomination.

"His Grace did not with his usual exactness answer my letter. On my return to town last week I waited upon him, and he then apologised for not writing, from his having been making some further researches into this affair, and desired I would give him a little more time.

"On these facts, which I affirm to be true, I think I can vindicate myself from the charge of unnecessary delay.

"Whatever others may think or say on this subject, I please myself with reflecting that I neither wantonly formed my pretensions nor prosecuted them peevishly.

"I can easily conceive that a clamour may have been made, not only among the Laity, but some of the Clergy too, against a Bishop endeavouring, as it may be called, to deprive one of his Clergy of his right ; but as I have suffered in different parts of my life, from my conduct having been misrepresented or misapprehended, I have long learnt to be content with the approbation of my own mind—not indifferent, yet not over-solicitous, about the precarious judgment of other men.

ED. CHESTER."

On candidly reviewing the whole of this singular dispute, it is impossible to divest one's-self of the impression that that eminently-learned and pious Prelate, Archbishop Secker, displayed throughout the proceedings a degree of illiberality, heightened by vexatious and unnecessary delay, amounting to culpable negligence, such as would have been unbecoming in whomsoever evinced ; but in an exalted Dignitary of the Established Church, was peculiarly

reprehensible. The grounds for any claim on his part were trivial and untenable, or at least such as might easily have been resolved. And the only plea to be urged in his justification is, that his time was too much occupied in the other temporal and spiritual duties of his high office, to admit of his devoting more of it to the settlement of the right of presentation to the New Church of Rossendale, and of at once, on his raising the question, setting himself to the investigation of the measure of his right of claim to the patronage; which, seeing that it could not be supported, should have been conceded with all promptitude, so terminating the dispute in a dignified and graceful manner. There is more to be said in justification of the plea of the Diocesan. His claim was founded on the Decree of the Chancellor of the Duchy of the 4th Edward VI., which, whether rightly or wrongly, distinctly states "that it shall be lawful to and for the Ordinary of the Diocese there for the time being to appoint, name, and send one discreet, able, meet, and convenient Minister to serve the said Town, and to minister in the said Chapel." The Original of this Decree, however, was not forthcoming, although it had been diligently searched for at Chester and elsewhere, and consequently the privilege which it seems to confer could not be enforced, even had the argument of the Vicar in his last letter been untenable. With much to justify his proceeding, Dr. Keene acted an honourable part in promptly relinquishing a claim which he could not legally maintain. Of Mr Johnson the Vicar it is impossible to speak in too high terms of praise. His strength of character stands out in bold relief throughout the correspondence. A more timid and less able man would have shrunk from encountering two such antagonists, and probably have forfeited his rights to secure his peace of mind. But the worthy Vicar was of a belligerent temperament, and possessed a sturdy independence of soul, and he entered into the contest with a zeal and ability, tempered with rare prudence, which did him infinite credit.

If reports, which to this day are current at Newchurch, are to be credited, Mr. Shorrock, his ministerial office notwithstanding, was

one of those individuals, whose consciences, being somewhat elastic, are disinclined to interpret, in their strictest sense, the clauses of the fourth commandment ; and are willing to favour the notion which obtains with a large number even at the present day, that the serious business of the Sabbath terminates with the service, and need only be resumed when the hour of prayer returns. It was his wont on favourable occasions—so runs the story—on passing the portals of the church at the close of the service, to dip his hand into the capacious pocket of his great coat, and draw from thence a football, and giving it a vigorous kick, would send it spinning into the air, across the churchyard, and over the wall into the adjoining field—when the youth of the village, emulating the example of their pastor, would hasten away in pursuit with all the impetuosity of youthful vigour. (1)

(1) On the publication of the first edition of this work, a correspondent wrote censuring me for relating this incident. Whether true or not, I am, of course, unable, personally, to vouch ; but certainly I learnt the tradition from more than one source. In any case I did not tell the story in disparagement of the reverend gentleman, but the contrary. The manners of the times, though not less genuine, were not as straight-laced as those of subsequent days. Possibly the basis of the story may be found in some such custom as is narrated in a delightful book—dear to readers of scholarly tastes :

“ A singular usage long perpetuated itself at Auxere. On Easter Day the canons, in the very centre of the great church, played solemnly at ball. Vespers being sung, instead of conducting the bishop to his palace, they proceeded in order into the nave, the people standing in two long rows to watch. Girding up their skirts a little way, the whole body of clerics awaited their turn in silence, while the captain of the singing-boys cast the ball into the air, as high as he might, along the vaulted roof of the central aisle to be caught by any boy who could, and tossed again with hand or foot till it passed on to the portly chanters, the chaplains, the canons themselves, who finally played out the game with all the decorum of an ecclesiastical ceremony. It was just then, just as the canons took the ball to themselves so gravely, that Denys—Denys l'Auxerrois, as he was afterwards called—appeared for the first time. Leaping in among the timid children he made the thing really a game. The boys played like boys, the men almost like madmen, and all with a delightful glee which became contagious, first in the clerical body, and then among the spectators. The aged Dean of the Chapter, Protonotary of his

After all, the Incumbent was only fulfilling the mandate of James I., promulgated in his notorious "Book of Sports,"^(u) which, by the way, is said to date its inspiration from the King's famous visit to Hoghton Tower, in the neighbourhood of Blackburn; on which occasion a petition was presented to His Majesty by certain of his loyal subjects, complaining of the measures of the Puritans in discouraging and suppressing the lawful recreations of the people, and praying his Majesty to interfere in their behalf.

In connection with St. Nicholas's Church is a National School, which abuts on the churchyard, and was erected in 1829-30, at a cost of £800; of which sum £500 was contributed by Robert Haworth, Esq., of Warth.

Holiness, held up his purple skirt a little higher, and stepping from the ranks with an amazing levity, as if suddenly relieved of his burden of eighty years, tossed the ball with his foot to the venerable capitular Homilist, equal to the occasion. And then, unable to stand inactive any longer, the laity carried on the game among themselves, with shouts of not too boisterous amusement; the sport continuing until the flight of the ball could no longer be traced along the dusky aisles."—WALTER PATER (*Imaginary Portraits. Denys L'Auxerrois.*)

(u) The "Book of Sports," published by command of James I., in the year 1618, amongst other things, proclaimed—"That for his good people's lawful recreation, his pleasure was, that after the end of Divine Service, they be not disturbed, letted, or discouraged, from any lawful recreation, such as dancing, either men or women; Archery for men, leaping, vaulting, or any such harmless recreation; nor from having of May games, Whitsonales, and Morice-dances, and the setting-up of May-poles and other sports therewith used; so as the time be had in due and convenient time, without impediment or neglect of divine service. And that women should have leave to carry rushes to the church for the decorating of it according to the old custom." It is proper to add, that "He did bar from this benefit and liberty all such known recusants, either men or women, as did abstain from coming to church, or divine service, they being unworthy of any lawful recreation, after the said Service, that would not first come to the church and serve God." The latter clause is a recognition of the doctrine of Works with a vengeance!

A stone tablet, erected over the entrance to the school in 1844 bears the following inscription :—

"This Tablet is erected by the Trustees of the National School to commemorate the munificent GIFT OF FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS for the Building thereof, by Robert Haworth, late of Warth, who died on the 11th day of Dec., 1823."

Mr. Haworth died in 1823, and by the terms of his Will he bequeathed the sum named to the treasurer of the Church Sunday School, in Newchurch, Rossendale, and the like sum to the treasurer of the Sunday School belonging to the society of the Wesleyan Methodists there, to assist in building schoolrooms for these religious bodies respectively.

. Mr Baines in his History of the County, has confounded the National with the Grammar School, at Newchurch ; the two being quite distinct. The latter is situated a little below the village, and bears a just reputation for the ability of its Preceptors.

"Here is a School endowed by John Kershaw, after his wife's death, (who died an.[no] 1709,) wth Lands worth 10l. 10s. p.[er] an [num.] For ye 2 first years after her death, the Rents were applied by ye Feoffees to ye building of a school-house, wch was finished an.[no] 1711 ; since which they have been given to ye Master, who is nominated by ye Feoffees.

"[The] Writings are in ye hands of ye Steward of ye Honour of Clithero.

"Land given to [the] School, [which] contains 30 Statute Acres. Left also by John Kershaw, 80l." (v)

The School was rebuilt in the years 1829-30. A further gift of a plot of land from the close adjoining has recently been made to the Trustees of the Grammar School, for a playground, by John Law, Esq. of Eltofts, near Leeds. (w)

This school was endowed in 1701, by John Kershaw, of Boothfold, with two small estates at Heald in Bacup Booth. This fact is commemorated on his tombstone at Newchurch, as follows :—

(v) *Notitia Cestriensis*, p. 342.

(w) *ibid*, Note by Canon Raines, p. 343.

"In Memory of JOHN KERSHAW, of Wolfenden Booth Fold, the beneficent donor of the estates situated in Heald, in Bacup Booth, for the benefit of New Church School. He was buried the 1st of February, 1701, at the age of 85 years.

"ANNE KERSHAW, his wife, was buried 4th January, 1709:—

"They lived long beloved,
And dy'd bewailed,
And two estates
Upon one school entail'd."

It is unfortunate that these estates are not more advantageously located for increase in yearly value and consequent usefulness. Endowments of this character, when judiciously administered, are often the instrument of conferring untold blessings on the neighbourhood possessing them; and, taken in the aggregate, they form one of the distinguishing glories of a civilised and free country. To no nobler purpose can wealth be devoted than that of providing the appliances of education for the rising generation in present and future times.

The first school under the Trust was situated at Boothfold, having been built in 1701. This continued in use till 1787, when it was converted into cottages (still in existence, as re-built), on the erection, in the latter year, of the school at the top of Bridleway; which was re-built in 1830. The last-named was demolished in 1889 (a temporary iron structure being used in the interval), and the new school buildings, on the same site, were completed and opened in 1890, at a cost of £2200. This result is largely due to the active exertions of the late headmaster, the Rev. R. W. Hay, M.A. (now of Garsdon Rectory, near Malmesbury). The new structure, of which Mr. Thomas Bell, of Burnley, was the architect, is a vast improvement on its predecessors. The style of the elevation is simple but effective; there is a handsome bell turret in the farther gable, and the mullioned and transomed windows give a collegiate character to the building. A new scheme was formulated by the Charity Commissioners in 1890, under which the management of the school is extended and its usefulness and popularity increased. Under this

scheme the Foundation is administered by a governing body consisting of twelve members. Six of these are representative, two each being chosen by the Town Councils of Bacup and Rawtenstall, and one each by the Newchurch School Board and the Council of the Victoria University. The other six are Co-optative, and consist of gentlemen resident in the district. Mr. T. E. Jackson, M.A., is the present Head Master, his appointment dating from July, 1892.

In addition to the foundation of the Grammar School and the contribution towards the building of St. Nicholas Sunday School, two other Newchurch bequests may be recorded in this placè.

"Ormerod's Charity" consisted of a gift about the middle of last century of £300 advanced towards the building of a workhouse for the use of the poor in the township of Newchurch-in-Rossendale. In respect of this sum of £300, the yearly sum of £13 10s. od., or at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest, the Charity Commissioners (1830) found was paid as a charge upon the workhouse out of the poor rates, and was distributed by quarterly payments of £3 7s. 6d., principally in sums of 2s. or 2s. 6d., amongst poor persons of the chapelry, not receiving relief.

The other is the charity of the late Mrs. Frances Strong, of Height Side, Newchurch, who by her Will of December 4th, 1856, directed her trustees to invest the sum of £1000 out of her purely personal estate, and to pay the interest thereof in money, clothing, or otherwise, at their discretion, amongst deserving poor people resident within Deadwensclough, in Rossendale, for ever. Such distribution to take place yearly, on the thirteenth day of October, being her birthday. The first trustees were the late George Hargreaves, of Newchurch, and John Whitaker, late of Broadclough, Bacup.

From the date of the erection of the New Church in 1511, to the 32nd year of the reign of King Henry VIII. (1540), the population of Rossendale had gone on steadily increasing. At the latter date they amounted, probably, to between 600 and 700 souls. These were widely scattered over the district, and it soon became manifest that one small chapel was insufficient for their

accommodation. Measures were accordingly taken by certain of the inhabitants to supply the want, and the result was the erection, on Morrell Height, of Goodshaw Chapel in the year 1542.

"Goodshaw, Certif.[ied] that there is no endowment. The Inhab.[itants] allow some inconsiderable contrib.[utions,] which are ill paid.

"Divine Service [is performed] and [a] Sermon [preached] once a fortnight by [the] Curate of Altham.

"Goodshaw, a Chappell within Haslingden. I preach there sometimes, but have nothing for my pains. *Curate of Haslingden's Acct.*, an. [10] 1704, V. [ide] *Pap. Reg.*

"Served by [the] Curate of Haslingden, an. [no] 1724.

["There is] one Cottage belong.[ing] to [the] Chappell, let for 10s. p[er] an.[num] Certif.[ied] an.[no] 1725.

"8 m.[iles] from Whalley; 2 m.[iles] from [the] next Chap.[el].

"Neither School nor Charities." (r)

"Dedicated to St Mary and All Saints. Value in 1834, £121. Registers begin in 1732.

"Goodshaw is situated in Higher Booth, and, although in the Chapelry of Haslingden, is dependent upon Whalley, and not Haslingden as stated by Baines. . . . In the year 1650 Goodshaw was returned as not Parochial, though having seventy families, and being eleven miles from the Parish Church. It had then neither Minister nor maintenance "save one Messuage and a backside worth 10s. per ann." The inhabitants desire to have a Parish, and a competent allowance for a resident Minister. *Parl. Inq. Lamb. MSS.* vol. ii. It has now a district assigned to it comprising Morrell Height, where it is situated, Crawshaw Booth, Gambleside, Goodshaw, and Love Clough. There is a Parsonage house, a resident Incumbent with a Curate, and Schools in active operation,—all forming a pleasing contrast to the gloomy picture drawn by Bishop Gastrell and the Curate of Haslingden in the text, and to the still more touching and miserable picture of the Republican and Puritan era." (s)

The following is of much interest to all connected with the district :—

(r) *Notitia Cestriensis*, p. 331. (s) *ibid.*, note by Canon Raines, p. 331.

"A COPY OF AN OLD DEED, ENTERED INTO FOR BUILDING A CHAPEL AT GOODSHAW IN THE FOREST OF ROSSENDALE, IN THE 32ND YEAR OF THE REIGN OF KING HENRY THE 8TH.

"This Indenture, made the 16th day of December, in the 32nd year of the Reign of our most Dread Sovereign Lord, Henry the 8th, by the Grace of God King of England and of France, defender of the faith, lord of Ireland, and in earth immediately under God, Supreme head of the Church of England, Betwixt George Ormerod, of Crawshawbooth; James Haworth, of the same; John Ormerod, of Gambleside, son and heir apparent to the said George Ormerod; and George Ormerod, of Gambleside, another of the sons of the said George Ormerod, of Crawshawbooth, in the County of Lancaster, Yeomen, on the one part: and Thurstan Birtwistle, of the Goodshaw; Henry Hargreaves, of the same; Oliver Holt, of the Loveclough; and John Birtwistle, of the same, in the said County, Yeomen, on the other part, *Witnesseth*, that it is conceded, covenanted, and agreed betwixt the said parties, that they shall found, Edifie, and Build one Chapel in the Honour of God, our Blessed Lady, and all saints, in a certain place within the forrest of Rossendale named Morrell Height, for the Easement of the said parties and of their neighbours the Inhabitants of Crawshawbooth, Gambleside, Goodshaw, and Loveclough, and all other the King's Leige people which shall be disposed to hear Mass and other Divine Service in the said Chapel, in form and manner hereafter ensuing. That is to wit—First, it is agreed and appointed betwixt the said parties, for and concerning the proportion of the said Chapel, that the same shall be and contain in itself in length 16 cloth yards, and in wideness 7 cloth yards, and the walls of the said Chapel shall be and contain in height 3 cloth yards; and that there shall be in the said Chapel two doors of Hewn Stones and three windows of Hewn Stones; and the same Chapel to be Timbered accordingly, and to be made, thacked, and finished afore the first of Mari Mawdlin next to come after the day

of the date hereof. And further it is Covenanted betwixt the said parties, in form and manner following, that is to wit—The said George Ormerod, father, James Haworth, John Ormerod and George Ormerod, the sons, covenanteth, granteth, and agreeth, by these present Indentures, to and with the said Thurstan Birtwistle, Henry Hargreaves, Oliver Holt, and John Birtwistle, that they, the said George Ormerod, the father, and the said Co-fellows, with and towards the help and supportation as they shall happen to get of their neighbours the Inhabitants of Crawshawbooth, Gamble-side, Nutshaw, and Dunnockshaw, and of Wolfenden, Richard Ormerod, of Wolfenden Booth, and Miles Nutton, of Rossendale, shall make, stand to, and bear the Moiety of all manner of costs and charges concerning the foundation and Building of the said Chapel; and in like manner the said Thurstan Birtwistle, Henry Hargreaves, Oliver Holt, and John Birtwistle covenanteth, granteth, and agreeth by these present Indentures, to and with the said George Ormerod, the father, and his said Co-fellows, that the said Thurstan Birtwistle and his said Co-fellows, with the help and supportation of other their neighbours, Inhabitants of the Goodshaw and Loveclough before said, shall make, stand to, and bear the other Moiety of all manner of costs and charges concerning the foundation and Building of the said Chapel. And also it is agreed betwixt the said parties that they shall be indifferently . . . with all manner of Gifts and Labours which at any time or times hereafter shall be given or Bequeathed towards the foundation or Building of the said Chapel by any manner of person or persons above named, nor mentioned in this Indenture, if any such be. And further it is covenanted, as well of the part of the said George Ormerod, the father, and his Co-fellows, as of the part of the said Thurstan Birtwistle and his Co-fellows, that if fortune any dissention or variance to be moved Betwixt the said parties at any time or times hereafter for and concerning the foundation or building of the said Chapel, or any manner of costs and labours concerning the same, then the said parties to be reformed, ordered, and redressed by Richd. Townley, of Worsthorpe, Esqr., so oft as any such

dissention shall so happen betwixt them, and for the performance of the covenants, grants, and articles covenanted, granted, and declared in these Indentures, the said parties stand bounden party to party by their several obligations in the sum of Twenty pounds sterling, which obligations bear date the day of the date of these Indentures. In witness whereof the said parties to these Indentures Interchangeably have set their seals upon the day and year above written."

"(26 Augt. 1656.—A true copy of the Original Indenture remaining in the hands of John Howorth, of Crawshawbooth) (saving what is wanting above and could not be read.)

" Examined by me,

" ANDR. HOLDEN."

The dimensions of the Chapel as given in the above Deed are curious ; the width being somewhat out of proportion to the length and height. The walls, which were only nine feet high, must have been unpleasantly low, though the building inside was probably open to the thatched roof. In the year 1817-18 the Chapel was rebuilt and enlarged, but the modern erection is almost as void of architectural pretensions as its humble forerunner. There is room for regret here, as no site in the Forest of Rossendale is better adapted for displaying the architectural beauties of a Building.

In the year 1584, or 42 years after the erection of the Chapel at Goodshaw, certain of the inhabitants of Rawtenstall, Newhallhey, Gambleside, Loveclough, Crawshawbooth, Constablee, Oakenhead Wood, and Dunnockshaw prayed to be separated from Newchurch and to be allowed to betake themselves to the Church at Haslingden, or, for their ease, to the Chapel at Goodshaw, for the hearing of Divine Service, and the prayer was granted, as appears by the following :—

AN ORDER FOR SEPARATEING PART OF YE FORREST OF
ROSSENDALE FROM NEWCHURCH, & BETAKING
THEMSELVES TO HASLINGDEN—27TH YEAR OF YE
REIGN OF QUEEN ELIZTH.

" At a Commission holden at Manchester in the Collegiate Church there

upon Thursday, vizt. ye 29th de of ye month of Janry. in ye 27th of ye most
Illustrious Queen Elizth.

vizt. { Wills Ep
Robtus N
Edns Hopwood

" The Act before ye Queen's Commissioners above mentioned ye day,
month, year & place aforesd are as followeth, vizt.

" *Between* Gyles Hoyle & others, Churchwardens in ye Forrest of
Rossendale of ye Newchurch of our Saviour, of ye one part, and others
Inhabitants within ye sd Forrest of ye other part: *Whereas* ye Churchwardens
by way of Information unto this Court have shewed and declared that all and
every the Inhabitants within the sd Forrest of Rossendale by virtue of a grant
or Charter from ye late most excellent Prince of famous memory King Edwd.
ye 6th, are bound to repair & come unto ye sd Newchurch in Rossendale
afores there to hear Divine Service and Sermons and Administration of ye
Sacraments and other ye Ceremonies of ye Church which they ought to have
& to be contributors alltogether for & towards ye reparation of ye sd Church
when & so often as need shall require. And that ye premes notwithstanding
certain of ye Inhabitants within ye sd Forrest have of long time & yet do
utterly refuse so to do, As namely Edwd Rawstorne Esq. for & in the name of
John Bridge of Rawtenstall, John Piccop of ye same, Crofer Bridge of ye same,
Thomas Piccop of ye same, Isabel Piccop widow of ye same, Thomas Tattersall
of ye same, John Rawstorne of ye same, Hugh Hey of ye same, tenants of
ye said Edwd Rawstorne. James Heap of Rawtenstall aforesaid & Henry
Heap of ye same. Crofer Nuttall of Newhallhey gentn, Agnes Nuttall of ye
same, Widow, George Ormerod of Gambleside with ye rest of ye Inhabitants,
George Dearden of Loveclough with ye rest of ye Inhabitants there, Dennis
Haworth & James Haworth of Crawshawbooth with ye rest of the Inhabitants
there, George Haworth of Constableigh with ye rest of ye Inhabitants there,
Richd Hey of Oakenhead with ye rest of ye Inhabitants there, with all &
every ye Inhabitants of Dunnockshaw, And therefore have prayed that in
consideration of ye premes ye sd parties last above mentioned & every of
them may by ye Authority of this Court be compelled to repair unto ye said
Church & farther to do in all things as ye rest of ye Inhabitants within ye said
Forrest and as by ye sd Charter or grant they are & stand bounden to do.
And whereas also ye sd Edwd Rawstorne Esquire & others ye parties above
named appearing before this Court have alledged for themselves, First, that
they are not neither ought to be bounden unto ye sd Charter or Grant as well
for yt ye same was procured of ye King's highness upon sinister Information
without their privity consent or knowledge & of their predecessors. As also
yt it doth bind them to many great inconveniences which they think was never

intended agst them. Secondly, that they are far distant of & from ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale & therefore ye sd parties & their predecessors both before ye sd Charter or Grant was given & ever since have usually repaired to ye Church of Haslingden and Chapel of Goodshaw within the sd Forrest both ye which be very near unto them. Further ye said parties have alleged yt if they should come & repair unto ye sd Newchurch in Rossendale they could not have room & place fit or convenient for them to kneel or sit in at ye time of Divine Service. And last of all that ye sd Churchwardens of ye sd Newchurch in Rossendale had of late imposed upon them such excessive Taxation of charges as in no wise they should be able to bear without their great impoverishment & hindrance. And therefore ye said parties have likewise prayed that they might be dismissed the Court & permitted to repair to ye sd Church of Haslingden and Chapel of Goodshaw as heretofore they & their predecessors have done, renouncing & utterly disclaiming from all their right, interest & benefit which they either had or might have in & to ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale by virtue of the sd Charter or Grant for them their heirs and successors for ever hereafter. Which done ye court after better & deliberate consideration of ye premes & ye Allegations on both sides had & made, & especially for yt ye Inhabitants of ye Booths above named have of long time been as of duty belonging to no Church, but at their own liberty, whereupon many disorders both have & may easily arise. And as well for ye avoiding thereof & for some other Causes by them alledged & hereabove-mentioned & other good considerations ye Court thereunto moving, Hath ordered & decreed ye day & place above named. That ye sd parties shall from time to time & at all times hereafter repair and go unto ye Church of Haslingden there to hear Divine Service & Sermons & have administration of Sacraments and other Ceremonies of ye Church in all degrees as other ye Parishioners belonging to ye sd Church of Haslingden if ye sd Parishioners of Haslingden will permit em so to do, doing all duties to ye sd Church as ye rest of ye Inhabitants within the sd Parish do, Saving yt they or any of them may for their more ease repair unto ye sd Chapel of Goodshaw for hearing of Divine Service only for so long & till such time as further Order be taken either by ye sd Court or other sufficient for & concerning ye premes & that neither ye sd Inhabitants above named or any of them their heirs or successors Inhabitants within ye sd places above mentioned shall at any time hereafter Claim use or have any ease or benefit of in or by ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale, neither have any access or repair unto ye same for hearing of Divine Service or for ye Administration of Sacraments or other Ceremonies of ye Church without ye lycense and free consent of ye Churchwardens of ye same. Moreover it is Ordered & Decreed that Thomas Bridge and Charles Whitaker of Rockcliffe their heirs & successors

tenants to Mr. Edwd Rawstorne in Rockliffewood aforesaid shall for ever hereafter be as Parishioners & belong unto ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale & yt ye sd Thomas Bridge and Charles Whitaker shall either of them pay or cause to be paid to ye Churchwardens of ye Newchurch of Rossendale for & towards ye reparation of ye same four years rent, ye one half thereof at ye feast of St Michael the Archangel next & ye other half at ye feast of St Michael ye Archangel next ensuing. In consideration whereof ye sd Churchwardens of ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale shall presently appoint & assign unto ye sd Thomas Bridge and Charles Whitaker such fit convenient room & places to sit in at ye time of Divine Service within ye sd Church, as shall be decent & meet for their calling, Provided always yt ye Order for ye Assignment of forms & stalls within ye sd Newchurch of Rossendale to certain Inhabitants there heretofore by authority from this Court set down by Mr. Richd Midgley, Clerk, Vicar of Rochdale & Lawrence Nuttall Gentln & exhibited into this Court under their hands in writing, shall be and remain in force & take its full effect, this present order or anything therein contained to ye contrary notwithstanding. Provided alsoe that this present order & decree shall in nowise touch or be prejudiciall to Impeach hurt hinder or contrary to ye true Intent and meaning of ye sd Charter or Grant or anything matter or clause therein specified intended set down or declared."

In the early years of its existence, the Church, as already stated, was served by the Curate of Haslingden, there being no settled minister in charge. The Rev. Mr. Uttley, was appointed to the Curacy about 1730, and ministered theré for over forty years. Prior to the erection of St. John's Church, Bacup (A.D., 1788,) Mr. Uttley officiated both at his own place of worship and every alternate Sunday at Bacup, preaching and baptizing in the old schoolroom which stood on the site of the present Mechanics' Institution.

It is not very clear who succeeded to the Curacy, but there is still in existence an interesting document (*t*) which throws light upon the subject. This is to the following effect :—

"Know all men by these [presents] that I, Richard Ortt, of Bury, in the County of Lancaster, schoolmaster, am held and firmly bound to John Holt, James Hargreaves, Richard Saunderson and Joshua Townsend, of Goodshaw, yeoman, in the sum of

(*t*) In the possession of W. S. Weeks, Esq., solicitor, Clitheroe.

two hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to them or their certain Attorneys, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, for which Payment well and truly to be made I bind myself, my Heirs, Executors and Administrators firmly by these Presents, sealed with my seal and dated the Eleventh day of September in the twenty-first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty One.

"Whereas the Inhabitants of Goodshaw Chapelry intend to raise the salary of the said chapel from its present salary of twenty-six pounds and fifteen shillings per annum, to forty pounds exclusive of the Fees accruing from the Performance of Parochial Duty, in order to induce a Clergyman to reside amongst them and teach a school there upon such a plan and on such conditions as shall hereafter be agreed upon. Now the Conditions of the above written Obligation is such that if the above-bounden Richard Ortt shall be nominated and ordained to the Curacy of Goodshaw aforesaid, and the said curacy shall be augmented to forty pounds per year by the inhabitants thereof exclusive of the Fees above-mentioned within twelve months from the date hereof. And if at or before the expiration of the said twelve months the said Richard Ortt shall become a resident Clergyman and Schoolmaster there, or shall decline, give up and resign the said Curacy at the expiration of the said twelve months or at any time after he becomes resident, or happen to die within or after that time, then this Obligation shall be void otherwise it shall be and remain in full force and virtue in the law."

Whether Mr. Ortt became the Minister, however, and, if so, how long he remained at Goodshaw, is uncertain.

The Benefice is a Perpetual Curacy in the gift of the Trustees of William Hulme, called the "Hulmeian Trustees." The Vicar of Whalley was formerly the patron.

The following are the names of the Incumbents or Vicars since the year 1814, as they appear in the Baptismal Register:—

Rev. George Haworth, 1814; died November 5, 1836.

Rev. E. B. Allen, 1836; removed to Bacup, June, 1839.

Rev. Henry Howorth, 1839; removed to Rawtenstall 1847.

Rev. James Bell, 1848; died March 4, 1854.

Rev. John Howard, 1854; died September 28, 1887.

Rev. Abraham Spencer, M.A., 1887; removed to Haslingden, 1892.

Rev. Alfred Bedson, M.A., 1892; the present Vicar.

Down to about 1850, Goodshaw was a Chapelry under the Chapelry of Haslingden.

A new Church, dedicated to St. John, has been erected at Sunnyside, Crawshawbooth, and in connection with the church at Goodshaw. In addition to giving the site, Lord Crawshaw has contributed £3,000 towards the structure, and £1000 to the endowment. The building is a handsome one in the late decorated style, consisting of nave of five bays, north and south aisles, chancel and transepts. On the north side of the chancel is the tower, 23 feet square at the base and 122 feet in height to the top of the pinnacles. The Church has accommodation for 604 worshippers.

In the returns made to Parliament in 1786, it is stated that Samuel Mills gave to the poor of Goodshaw money producing £3 a year. The only information which the Charity Commissioners in 1830 were able to obtain relating to this charitable gift was from James Hargreaves, Esq., who stated that his uncle, the Rev. John Hargreaves, to whom he was executor, with his brother Colonel Hargreaves, told him that there was in his hand £20, left for the poor of the Chapelry in Goodshaw, but that it was not known by whom it was given. Since the death of his uncle, he had considered himself answerable for this sum; and he stated that he had given away in charity to poor persons of Higher Booth, in which the Chapel of Goodshaw is situated, upwards of 20s. yearly.

CHAPTER III.

"God's lowly temple! place of many prayers!

The sight of thee brings gladness to my heart;
And while beneath thy humble roof I stand,
I seem to grasp an old familiar hand,
And hear a voice that bids my spirit start."

—ROBERT NICOLL.—"The Village Church."

AN interval of 246 years elapsed between the foundation of All Saint's Church, Goodshaw, (A.D. 1542) and that of St. John's, Bacup, which was the next Episcopal Chapel built within the Forest of Rossendale. Previous to the erection of the latter, the Inhabitants of Bacup who were so disposed, attended St. Nicholas's Church, at the Village of Newchurch, and a footpath, still in existence, which crosses the hills from Heald, passing Doals and Hayslacks, through the Broadclough estates, by Tewitt Hall, Winder Gate, and Acre Hill, through Edgeside and Bridleway, yet bears the name of "Th' Kirk Gate," as being the path usually travelled by pedestrians going to the New Church. Another "old gate" led from Sharneyford, past Heap Farm and Th' Owd Whoam, down by Flowers and Laneside, Greensnook, Lane-Head Lane, through the river opposite the old school in Bacup-fold, along Newgate, up Bankside Lane, right on past Th' Hile and thence by way of Boothfold to the Church.

The distance being considerable, and much inconvenience resulting from conveying the dead so far over irregular and exposed tracks; and, moreover, the population continuing greatly to increase, the principal inhabitants of Bacup and

its vicinity, took the necessary steps for erecting a Chapel of Ease within the Town. The sanction of the authorities was obtained on the stipulation that a proportion of the dues accruing to such chapel should be paid to the Incumbents of Newchurch. It is estimated that during the time this arrangement continued in effect, a sum of upwards of £900 was handed over to Newchurch, as its proportion of the fees.

On the 16th of August, in the year 1788, St. John's, Bacup, was consecrated by Dr. Cleaver, Bishop of Chester. The land on which the Church is built was given by John Whitaker, Esq., of Broadclough.

The old School which formerly stood on the site of the Mechanics' Institution, though originally belonging to the Baptist denomination, was latterly used as an Episcopal place of worship prior to the erection of St. John's, and, as before-mentioned, the Rev. Mr. Uttley, the Clergyman residing at Goodshaw, officiated therein every alternate Sunday.

The National School was built by subscription, in the year 1829. Mrs. Heyworth, of Willow Cottage, who died in her 93d year, gave £60 towards that object, and a few other of the principal residents in the town and district, £50 each.

The Trustees, who were originally the Patrons of the Church, guaranteed £80 per annum to the Minister in addition to his proportionate share of the dues. The income derived from the sittings, at the beginning of the century, amounted to about £120 per annum, and the balance of £40 remaining after paying the salary of the Incumbent, was spent in defraying the other expenses of the church. A charity sermon was preached once every second or third year, and a collection made in support of the School, which was originally held in the old building referred to above.

The Rev. Joseph Ogden was the first Incumbent. He came from Sowerby in Yorkshire, to which place he eventually returned after spending several years of usefulness at Bacup. The reason of his leaving Sowerby and returning thither again, is stated by his

friend the Rev. James Hargreaves, Author of the "Life of John Hirst," in an interesting autobiography which he has left behind him in MS.

It appears that "complaints were lodged with the vicar of Halifax, who had the gift of Sowerby, that Mr. Ogden was too Methodistical, on which grounds he had orders to quit. A very large proportion of the inhabitants were greatly grieved, and obtained from Mr. Ogden a promise that whenever they could succeed in making way for his return, he would come amongst them again. The vicar died, another succeeded, and the application was made. The new vicar having another living, namely Ripponden, vacant, appointed Mr. Webster of Sowerby to that, and made way for Mr. Ogden's return, who, considering the inviolability of his promise, left all the dear connexions he had formed at Bacup. He spent the remainder of his life at Sowerby."

The following estimate of his character and abilities is given by the same writer :—

"Mr. Ogden came to Bacup when under thirty years of age. He was a man of slender talents as a preacher. His voice was rather feminine, and his delivery uninviting; and when in great earnest and vehement, which was very frequently, his voice rather approached towards a scream. He was very timid, and often on the Lord's-day morning, or at noon, would conceive that the subject he had prepared was improper, and he would then take another text, and throw himself upon the mercy of the moment. It cannot, therefore, be any matter of wonder if his sermons were often crude and incoherent; but his piety, his devotion, and his evident desire to do good, more than compensated for these defects."

After Mr. Ogden's removal an interval of about 18 months occurred, during which period there was no settled minister, the service being conducted by strangers.

The Rev. William Porter, who was from Cumberland, and became the resident Clergyman in 1796, officiated several times as a supply, and the congregation at that time having the power of

selection, chose him as their minister. His salary amounted to a fixed sum of £80 per annum, raised from the seat rents, and he had the proportionate share of the fees in addition.

The Burial fees were,—Seven years of age and upwards, 4s. 10d. each. 1s. 8d. out of this was paid to Newchurch, the Incumbent of St. John's received 1s. 6d., his Clerk 2d., and the Sexton 1s. 6d. Under seven years of age 3s. each, 1s. to Newchurch, 10d. to St. John's Incumbent, 2d. to Clerk, 1s. to Sexton.

The Baptismal fee was 10d. each. 5d. to Newchurch, 4d. to the Incumbent of St. John's, and 1d. to the Clerk. No marriages were solemnized here until the year 1837. Previous to that time Newchurch had the monopoly in this respect, so far as Bacup was concerned.

The Parsonage was built by the congregation about 1805, during the Incumbency of Mr. Porter, and in order to augment his income the congregation also subscribed and purchased the farm called Meadowhead near Gambleside, worth, at that time £40 per annum, which they presented to him. An endowment of £20 per annum was also obtained from Queen Anne's Bounty. About the same period, James Lord of Greave, at his death, made provision for the payment of £2 annually to the Incumbent of St. John's on condition that he should preach a sermon in the church on St. Andrew's day (Nov. 30) in each year.

The year before his death, which took place on May 4th, 1839, Mr. Porter obtained the services of a curate, the Rev. Robt. K. Cooke, to whom he paid one half of his stipend.

Mr. Porter was a laborious, earnest, and popular preacher, having a richly stored and ready memory. Not fond of formality and show, he yet exhibited certain peculiarities of character which attracted observation. "The entire tenour of his holy conversation marked him as a man of God; while his arduous, persevering, long-continued, but unwearied work of faith, and labour of love, in connexion with his patience of hope, showed that he was a *painful*, that is, a pains-taking minister of Jesus Christ. While his appearance and character were those of a Patriarch, his work and

labour were those of an Apostle." (a) Mr. Porter, who was nearly 80 years of age at his death, was 42 years Incumbent of St. John's. The Church, during his ministry, was crowded to excess with attentive hearers. The esteem in which he was held by his townsmen of all denominations was sincere and universal.

After Mr. Porter's death, the living was sold to the Hulmeian Trustees, (b) in whose hands the gift of the benefice rests.

The Rev. E. B. Allen was the 3rd Incumbent; he came in June 1839, and left in March or April 1849. His successor, the Rev. Benjamin Tweddle, came in 1850 and died April 1st, 1858, at Lytham, whither he had gone for his health, being succeeded by the Rev. J. F. Brindle, M.A., who left in 1877. The Rev. Arthur Phillips, M.A., the present Vicar, was appointed in the latter year.

After Mr. Porter's death, and down to that of Mr. Tweddle, the church was assisted by eleven curates in succession, whose salaries were paid by the Church Pastoral Aid Society.

(a) Sermon on the occasion of the death of the Rev. William Porter, of Bacup, preached by the Rev. James Knight, A.M., of Sheffield.

(b) The following account of the origin of the Hulme's foundation, is from the "History and Directory of Mid-Lancashire."

"William Hulme, Esq., of Kearsley, in Lancashire, by his will, dated the 24th of October, 1691, devised his lands and tenements in Heaton-Norris, Denton, Ashton-under-Lyne, Reddish, Manchester, and Harwood, in this county, to certain trustees and their heirs for ever, in order that the yearly rents might be distributed in equal proportions to four of the poorest Bachelors of Arts in Brazenose College, Oxford, who should resolve to reside there for the four succeeding years after such degree had been taken, the nomination to be approved of by the Warden of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, the Rectors of the parish churches of Prestwich and Bury for the time being, and for ever. In the 10th year of the reign of George III., an Act of Parliament was passed enabling the trustees to grant building leases of the estates, and to increase the number of exhibitioners; and in the 35th year of the same reign, an Amended Act was passed, empowering the said trustees to make such allowance to each exhibitioner, as they should think reasonable, provided it did not exceed £100.

"In the 54th year of the same king's reign, another Act was passed, by which the trustees were enabled to provide exhibitions, and found a divinity lecture, and to pay to the lecturer the sum of £150 a-year; and such was

In the year 1837, Bacup was made a Consolidated Chapelry, with the provision that on the death of the then Incumbent of Newchurch, the Rev. Edward Burrow, the fees payable thereto should cease.

Upwards of 7000 interments had taken place in the Churchyard of St. John's, to the date of its being closed in 1863.

About twenty-five years ago, during the Incumbency of the Rev. J. F. Brindle, the building having become dilapidated and unsafe, an attempt was made to obtain subscriptions for the erection of a new Church on a site a short distance away from the existing one. The effort, however, resulted in failure, and although the foundations of the proposed new structure were actually laid, they had ultimately to be abandoned. More recently in 1871, the roof of the building fell in. The Rev. A. Phillips having become Vicar in 1877, a subscription was set on foot, and this proving successful the old walls were taken down and the present handsome Church, at a cost of £15,000, erected on or about the original site, was

the increase in the value of the estates that they (the trustees) were enabled to allow the sum of £220 a-year to each exhibitioner, provided he resided in the college from the beginning to the end of Michaelmas term, "unless specially permitted to leave; and they were also empowered to purchase houses, lands, &c., to the amount of £5000. It was further enacted that the trustees should be one body politic and corporate, by the title of 'The Trustees of the estate devised by William Hulme, Esq.,' and might use a common seal, on which should be engraved the coat of Arms borne by the said William Hulme, and round which should be inscribed the words, '*Sigillum Hulmianum.*'

"In 1826 the accumulated funds which had arisen from the surplus rents and profits, seem to have amounted to £42,203 os. 4d., and the annual dividend produced the sum of £3,828. The trustees were subsequently authorised to apply part of the accumulation to the purchase of Advowsons of Livings, and to present thereto the exhibitioners on the foundation; the sum paid for the purchase of any one advowson or right of patronage not to exceed £7000; and they are also allowed to expend to the amount of £700 in the erection of a suitable parsonage for the incumbent. An exhibitioner, to be eligible, must have taken his degree of Bachelor of Arts in the University of Oxford, and have entered into holy orders."

completed in 1883, and consecrated on June 21st of that year.

It will be proper here to bring together a few particulars of the other Churches in the district.

St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, was consecrated in 1838, having been built by public subscription at a cost of £2,300. The late Henry Hoyle, of Newhallhey, gave £1,000 towards the endowment, and presented the Rev. William Whitworth, M.A., to the living. For a period of forty years, but little was done here by way of Church extension; but on the advent of the present Vicar, the Rev. J. Norris, M.A., a new order of things was instituted. The Church has been enlarged and many internal improvements carried out. The tower has been removed to the south-west, completed, supplied with a peal of eight bells and large clock with four illuminated dials. The total cost of this was £6,943.

New schools have been provided, the large one capable of accommodating 1,100 day scholars, serving as a concert room and public hall; it can seat 2,000 people. Underneath this are an institute, parish-room, reading-room, and kitchens. There are also covered and open playgrounds. The premises cover 4,000 square yards, 2000 of which were given by G. W. Law-Schofield, Esq. They were opened in 1884, and the cost was £6,212.

In 1886 a vicarage was erected at a cost of £2,140, exclusive of the gift of 2,406 square yards of land by the late H. H. Hardman. A new infant school was built at the cost of £874 at Constablee, and a site for an intended new Church there, St. Paul's, has also been procured.

There are over 350 communicants, 1,200 Sunday School, and 900 day scholars. All this progress of recent years is the result of indefatigable work, the moving spirit being the Vicar. The following is a list of the Incumbents or Vicars since the foundation:—

Rev. William Whitworth M.A., 1838, left 1847.

Rev. Henry Howorth, M.A., 1847, left 1869.

Rev. William Whitworth, M.A., (second time) 1869, left 1878.

Rev. J. Norris, M.A., 1878, the present Vicar.

The Trustees of the Church are James Maden Holt, G. W. Law-Schofield, Edmund Lord, Richard Hoyle Hardman, and George Hardman, Esquires.

Tunstead Church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was built through the efforts of the late Robert Munn and late George Ormerod, and was opened by License in the month of November, 1840. Consecrated September 29, 1841. The Trustees of the living are the Bishop of Manchester, the Chancellor of the Diocese, James Maden Holt, Esq., and the Heir of the late Frank Ormerod, Esq.

The following have been the Incumbents or Vicars since its foundation :

Rev. Francis Kirkpatrick, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin, 1841, left in 1846.

Rev. William Singleton, M.A., 1846, left in 1851.

Rev. John G. Haworth, 1851, left 1889.

Rev. John Falconer, present Vicar, 1889.

In 1858 a District was assigned to this Church.

There are large modern schools connected with the Church, in which an endeavour is made to keep abreast of the educational requirements of the day ; there is cooking for the girls and manual instruction for the boys. The Vicar has also succeeded, largely through the generosity of J. W. Lloyd, Esq., and J. H. Maden, Esq., M.P., in establishing a cottage accident hospital in the village.

Lumb was constituted an Ecclesiastical district, and its boundaries defined, by an Order in Council dated 24th February, 1846. The corner-stone of the church was laid on the 29th of September, 1847, by John Hargreaves, Esq., of Blackburn, who gave the site for the church and burial ground. A plate bearing the following inscription was placed in the stone : "Gloria in Excelsis. The corner-stone of this Church dedicated to the worship of the triune God, by the name of St. Michael's Church, Lumb, was laid on the 29th day of September, A.D., 1847, by John

Hargreaves, Esq., of Newchurch and Blackburn. Ralph Kinder, Incumbent ; Joseph Clarke, Architect."

The Church was consecrated by Dr. James Prince Lee, first Bishop of Manchester, on Saturday, December 9th, 1848, and pursuant to Act of Parliament, 6 and 7 Vict. Cap. 37. Lumb then became a new parish for all Ecclesiastical purposes.

The structure of the Church is Early Norman in style, with central tower, and has sitting accommodation for about 400. The bell was cast at the Irish Bell Foundry, Dublin, by John Murphy, and weighs, with clapper, 4 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs. It is cast to the note E natural, giving the option of two key notes, viz. : G or A, if at any time a peal should be required. Under Act 31 and 32, Vict. C. 117, the parish of Lumb became a (titular) vicarage, 31st July, 1868. The benefice is in the patronage of the Crown and Bishop, alternately, the first Incumbent being appointed by the Crown.

The Incumbents or Vicars since the erection of the Church are as follows :—

Rev. Ralph Kinder, 1846, left 1873.

Rev. James Wilkie Baron, M.A., 1873, left 1877.

Rev. Robt. Alexander McKee, M.A., 1877, left 1882.

Rev. Francis Hall Lockett, M.A., 1882, (present Vicar.)

The National School in connection with the Church was erected in 1870, and opened 21st January, 1871, by Dr. James Fraser, second Bishop of Manchester. The vicarage house was built in 1877.

The Parish of Christ Church, Bacup, which contains about 1,000 acres, was formed out of the parish of St. John's, and occupies part of the ancient parishes of Whalley and Rochdale.

The Church was erected at a cost of about £3,000, left by the late James Heyworth, of Rosehill, Bacup, and was consecrated 14th August, 1854, by Dr. Lee, Lord Bishop of Manchester. It is in the Early English style of architecture, and possesses chancel, with choir stalls, nave, north and south aisles, porch, and a square

massive tower at the south-west angle, which contains six bells. Commodious schools, with class-rooms and teacher's house, for day and Sunday school purposes, were erected in 1860. There is also a good vicarage house. The living is in the gift of five Trustees.

The Rev. John McCubbin was appointed first Incumbent, and held the benefice until his death, 26th November, 1888. The Rev. John Smith Doxey, present Vicar, was nominated by the Trustees, 15th December, 1888.

St. James's Church, Waterfoot, was opened by Licence, on October 23, 1863, and consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Manchester, on Thursday, November 23, 1865. The building was erected by public subscription at a cost of nearly £5000, the principal contributors towards the erection being the late James Crabtree, of Newchurch, George Hargreaves, J.P., and Lieutenant-Colonel Munn, J.P. The Patronage is vested in the Trustees. There are 603 sittings, of which 324 are free.

The following is a list of the Vicars since the foundation :— Rev. Robert Smith, M.A. 1865, left 1873 ; Rev. Alexander James Harrison, B.D. 1873, left 1885, Rev. Charles Wesson, M.A. 1886, the present Vicar.

St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Manchester, on Monday, January 23rd, 1865. The building, which is an elegant Gothic with spire at the east end, was erected at the sole cost of James Maden Holt, Esq., M.A., of Stubbylee, who is the Patron. The Rev. W. Whitworth, M.A. was the first Vicar, and on his resignation in 1869, was succeeded by the Rev. Wm. Johnson, M.A., the present Vicar.

The Church contains a Baptistry for the immersion of adults. This is sunk in the middle of the chancel, and covered by ornamental grating on a level with the floor.

For several years prior to the erection of the Church, divine service was conducted in the upper room of the School ; which, with the Parsonage, in the immediate vicinity, were built by the some munificent patron.

The Church at Edgeside, dedicated to St. Anne, was built in 1885-6, the greater part of the cost being defrayed by Captain Charles Patrick, who also gave the land and a site for the Vicarage, in memory of his wife, Mary Anne, the younger daughter of Mr. John Ashworth, of Cloughfold, (a native of Rossendale and a descendant of the old family of the Ormerods of Whitewell Bottom and Edgeside), a lady deservedly esteemed for her charitable disposition to the poor, and many amiable qualities.

The Church contains 350 sittings, all free. The cost was nearly £4,000. Generous contributors were Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Turner, Mrs. M. A. Royds, Mr. H. H. Bolton, Col. Hargreaves, and Mr. John Bolton, the Lord Montague and Exors. of the Duke of Buccleugh, the Manchester Diocesan Church Building Society, and others. It was consecrated the 1st August, 1886, by Bishop Frazer, who gave £20 to the Endowment Fund, which consisted of a donation of £1,300 by Captain Patrick, and a like sum by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

The Schools had been opened in 1873, and licensed for divine service also by Bishop Frazer. The land for the site was given by Captain and Mrs. Patrick, who largely contributed to the Building Fund.

The patrons are the Bishop and Rector of Newchurch, ex-officio, and three others, the Bishop and the other Trustees having the presentation alternately. The first and present Vicar is the Rev. J. Cross-Jones.

The Church of St. John the Divine, at Cloughfold, in the style of the 14th century—the early Transitional period—consists of chancel, nave, transepts, with clerestory, and was built by public subscription at a cost of £5,500, of which £2,000 were given by Mrs. Alice Anne Rushton, of Bowden, £500 by Messrs. Jas. H. Ashworth and Co., £250 by Messrs. Brooks and Brooks, £100 by Mr. H. H. Bolton, and £100 by the late Mr. Jas. Rushton. The Diocesan Church Building Society contributed £325. Architects Messrs. Paley and Austin, Lancaster. It was

consecrated on June 13th, 1890. Cloughfold is a Peel Parish carved out of the Parishes of Newchurch, Rawtenstall, and Waterfoot, gazetted March 26th, 1887. Mrs. Rushton, who also contributed largely to the endowment, held the patronage for life. She died on April 25th, 1893, when the patronage passed to the Bishop of Manchester. The first and present Vicar, the Rev. E. Holliday, was appointed in May, 1886. The church is free and open, expenses met by weekly offertory. Average congregation, 200; communicants, 120; with an average attendance of 400 at the Sunday School, and of 175 at the Day School.



CHAPTER IV.

" Within the chapel, kneel the worshippers ;
The censer swings, shedding its grateful incense
Down the aisles, and from the groined roof
The pendent lamp illumines the altar-piece."

THE original Church at Newchurch was Roman Catholic, and the cost of its erection was, it is probable, contributed to by the Monks of Whalley for the benefit of their forest servants and parishioners chiefly residing about Boothfold. It was served by a secular priest, Sir George Gregory, the first incumbent (*a*). The first Church of Goodshaw, in its inception, was also Roman Catholic. At the time of the Reformation in the reign of Henry VIII., the Churches were stripped of their altars, and became Churches of the reformed doctrine. The scanty congregations either conformed to the new, or sought other places of residence, where they could, though stealthily, follow the rites of the old religion. From the time of the Reformation in England until the end of the last century, no Catholic was known to reside within the Valley ; when a family of the name of Booth came to Hareholme and reintroduced the Catholic religion. The Booths were from Dolphinholme, near Lancaster, where the old faith had never been suppressed. The only place of worship they could attend was the domestic chapel of Townley, near Burnley, belonging to the Townley family, which had suffered for its adhesion to the old faith.

One of the daughters of Mr. Booth married Mr. Ashworth, owner of the Laund estate, which has devolved in course of time

(*a*) *Ante*, page 162.

on the descendants of their daughters, Alice and Sarah, who had married two brothers, Rockliff, of Liverpool.

At the beginning of this century periodical visits were paid to Rossendale by the priest who acted as chaplain to the Townleys, and looked after the few remaining Catholics in the neighbourhood; and Mass was said, and sometimes even sung, in an up-stairs room at Hareholme, for the benefit of the Booth family and one or two other families who had followed them.

About 1828, after a prolonged strike at Sunnyside Works, several Catholic families came to Rossendale from Manchester. Finding that there was no Church for them nearer than Townley, seven or eight miles distant, and neither wishing to give up their faith, nor desiring to undertake such a journey every Sunday, they laid their case before Mr. John Brooks, who offered them the use of a room in his works at Crawshawbooth, if the priest from Townley could be brought to give his services. From this time, 1828, till 1836, visits more or less regular were paid to the Valley either from Townley, or occasionally from Bury, where the Rev. Mr. Peacock had built the present St. Maries.

The first resident priest was the Rev. James Carr, sent by Dr. Penswick, Vicar Apostolic of the Lancashire district. He had a small chapel at Sunnyside behind the present Irwell-terrace. The first regular entry in the Baptismal register is dated 26th Sept., 1836, though the names of several children baptised by the Rev. Mr. Peacock before 1830, are entered, having been copied from loose scraps. A good percentage of the names of parents and god-parents are of unmistakeable Irish origin, even at that time. The great famine in 1847-8 sent over to Rossendale several hundred families, who readily found work in the fast-spreading cotton industry.

In May, 1839, the Rev. Henry Sharples succeeded to the office, but stayed only one year. After him came the Rev. William Fayer, whose last entry in the Baptism book is dated Nov. 14th, 1842. The Rev. James Rylands, who began his incumbency about Christmas of 1842, finding his congregation increasing rapidly, obtained land from Mrs. Ashworth for the erection of a church in a

more central position, and began the building of the present church at Constablee, Rawtenstall, in the beginning of 1844, but he did not stay to see the completion of his undertaking, and left Oct. 20th of the same year, when the walls of the building were finished up to the window heads. A young and zealous priest, the Rev. Thos. Rimmer, was sent to finish the building, which he succeeded in doing towards the end of 1845. On the 24th September, 1845, the new church was opened by the Vicar Apostolic of the Lancashire district. Pontifical Mass was sung by the Right Rev. Dr. Sharples, Assistant Vicar, the sermon being preached by Dr. Roskell, who afterwards became Bishop of Nottingham. The cost of its erection was £1,500. The church was dedicated to St. James-the-Less, and in its quaint early English form became one of the recognised features of rapidly-growing Rawtenstall. Mr. Rimmer did not live long to minister in the church he finished, but having caught fever at the bedside of one of his flock at Haslingden, he died of the contagion on the 8th January, 1848, and was buried inside the sanctuary of the church, a memorial brass being erected to his memory over the vestry door.

The Rev. James F. Anderton, who succeeded in January, was replaced in October of the same year by the Rev. Thomas Unsworth, who was the Incumbent until October, 1851. He was followed by the Rev. Henry Swale (now at Broughton, near Skipton), who only stayed three years. In October, 1854, a young priest, who had been curate in St. Wilfred's, Manchester, the Rev. Joseph Scott, took charge of the scattered mission, then including Bacup, Stacksteads, Haslingden, and Ramsbottom. During his twenty-one years' incumbency, he enclosed the graveyard by a stone wall, built a school, and the present rectory. Owing to failing health he retired from active work in October, 1875. He was succeeded by the Rev. Denis Byrne, who had served previously for many years in St. Patrick's, Bolton, and after a stay of about three years retired from the mission and shortly after died at Genoa in Italy. The Rev. Michael McCormick succeeded, but retired in March, 1881, after a stay of a little over two years.

The Rev. John C. Mussely, the present Incumbent, who had been at Radcliffe for several years, was sent by the Bishop to continue the work. During his Incumbency the church has been repaired and extended in 1881; the Infant school built in 1883, and a Club Room in 1886. A School Chapel at Newchurch (originally built for the Methodist Association) has been purchased, dedicated to St. Peter, and has lately been attached to the new mission at Stacksteads. The present congregation at Rawtenstall consists of about 1,200 persons; the number of children in the day school is 280, with about 200 Sunday scholars.

The Catholic mission at Bacup was opened in 1852, in a room in Market Street, by the Rev. Henry Mulvaney. This room served the purposes of Church and School till 1857, when the nave of the present Church at Bankside, dedicated to St. Mary, was opened, and at a cost of £2,000.

On the retirement of Father Mulvaney in 1880, he was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Steele, who held the charge till his death on February 29th, 1884. One result of Mr. Steele's labours was the purchase of the site, and the preliminary arrangements for the building of the Huttock End School.

The Rev. John Lane, the present rector, took charge on March 23rd, 1884. Since that time the chancel, side chapel, sacristy and gallery have been added to St. Mary's Church, at a cost of £1100.

St. Mary's School was built in 1871-2, and St. Joseph's School, Huttock End, Stacksteads, in 1884-5, having cost respectively £1200 and £700. On the 1st November, 1892, the district around St. Joseph's School, with part of Newchurch from the mission of St. James-the-Less, Rawtenstall, was erected into a separate mission, and the Rev. George Sparks took charge.

The congregation of St. Mary's number about 1000. There are 200 children in the Day, and 150 in the Sunday School.

CHAPTER V.

" The deeds we do, the words we say,
Into still air they seem to fleet,
We count them ever past,
But they shall last.
In the dread judgment they
And we shall meet !"

LYRA INNOCENTIAM.

THE History of the Baptist denomination in Rossendale has been ably written by the late Rev. James Hargreaves, in his "Life of John Hirst," and in the appendix thereto. In the present brief outline it is my intention simply to state a few general particulars of the rise and present *status* of this important body in Rossendale, and to notice a few of their more celebrated preachers.

At the end of the seventeenth century, Bacup was a small and unimportant place, scant of inhabitants, and with but a few straggling houses. In these respects it was of less account than either Newchurch or Goodshaw, both of which possessed their Episcopal Chapels. Prior to the establishment of the Baptist denomination in Rossendale, it would appear, from all that can be gleaned, that no place of worship of any kind existed in Bacup. The few inhabitants that composed the hamlet crossed the hills and worshipped at Newchurch, as occasion served.

In the list of "Licenses to Preach" in Blackburn parish and district, preserved in a State Paper in the Record Office, and bearing date Dom. Chas. II., 1672, a memorandum to the following effect, occurs:—"The barn of John Pickop, in Dedwinclough [in Newchurch-in-Rossendale], to be an Indep. [Independent] meeting

place." (a) The name of "Independent" was formerly applied to Anabaptists and *vice versa*, and it would thus appear that as early as the year 1672, the Baptists had a place of meeting in Dedwinclough. As Cloughfold is situated therein, it is not unreasonable to infer that at this date the denomination, either at that place or in its neighbourhood, had a veritable existence. However that may be, there is no record of any settled Nonconformist minister or preacher here at that early date.

About the end of the century two cousins, Yorkshiremen, by name William Mitchel and David Crossley, found their way into Rossendale Forest. These men were itinerating Baptist Preachers, holding strict Calvinistic views, and deeply imbued with that spirit of energy and self-devotedness which characterises the leaders in all great movements.

With admirable foresight they began their labours at Bacup and Cloughfold (the latter more populous than the former in those days,) two places void of the immediate presence of any religious teacher of their persuasion, the lack of which they determined, as far as in them lay, to supply in their own persons. We gather from the scanty memorials which exist of these men, that they were sincere and devout Christians—not to be daunted by difficulties—on whom opposition and reproach acted but as a stimulus to redoubled exertion. Where comparative barrenness before existed, they, by earnest and persevering labour, and the blessing of Providence, were the instruments of producing a rich and abundant harvest,

(a) Extracted by the late J. E. Bailey (Editor of the "Palatine Note Book") from No. 185, Record Office, St. Papers Dom. Chas. II., 1672, and quoted by Mr. Abram in his "History of Blackburn."

These licenses were issued by the Government consequent on the "Declaration of Indulgence" published by Charles II. on March 15th, 1672, by which he relaxed the severities entailed on Nonconformists by the "Act for suppressing Conventicles, 1664," and the "Five Mile Act, 1665," and declared his "will and pleasure to be, that the execution of all and all manner of penal laws in matters ecclesiastical, against whatsoever sort of Nonconformists, or recusants, be immediately suspended."

whose seed distributed in places widely apart, took root, grew, and flourished, and year by year, to this day, has mightily increased.

Mitchel, who was the elder by a few years, was probably the more earnest of the two disciples. His preaching seems to have been peculiarly obnoxious to those in authority, for on two occasions—the first time at Goodshaw Chapel—he was taken prisoner under the Conventicle Act. In his lifetime he published several sermons, and in 1707, the year after his death, a work which he had left behind him in MS., entitled “Jachin and Boaz; or, The Faith and Order of God’s House,” was also published, being edited by his kinsman, David Crossley, who wrote a preface to the work, giving a sketch of the life of its author. In this it is stated that “in reading, meditation, and prayer he was unwearied. In going to hear the Word of God, though many miles, in dark nights, and over dismal mountains, I and others who were his constant companions, must say he was no less indefatigable. In his preaching he set forth the free grace of the Gospel with that peculiar fervour, simplicity, and application which presently brought crowds of people from divers parts to hear him. Many at first designed only to gratify their curiosity, yet they soon found their hearts and consciences so effectually touched, that they could not but confess a dispensation of the Gospel was committed to him. Some came like Ishmael to scoff, and not a few like Michal despised him in their hearts. But those who had patience to hear him, usually met with such Scripture evidence in his doctrine, and with such plain marks of the genuine simplicity of his pretensions, that they were often heard to say, ‘The Lord is with him of a truth.’” He was the first settled minister at Cloughfold, and died in 1706, aged 44 years.

Of Crossley it is recorded that in his early life he was a friend of John Bunyan the Immortal Dreamer; and in his advanced age he cultivated the acquaintance of George Whitefield. He was the first pastor of the Baptist Church at Bacup. “It is said on good authority that he was by occupation in his youth a stone mason, and assisted at the erection of a building at Walsden, at no great

distance from Todmorden, labouring all the day, and preaching somewhere in the neighbourhood at night." (b) Mr. Crossley was reputed to be one of the most popular preachers of his day. In the pulpit his delivery was as eloquent as his appearance was commanding. He was said to be "the largest man in the county where he resided; for twenty years together he weighed, upon an average, twenty stone." (c) For a number of years he occupied a small farm named "Tatop," a little above Crawshawbooth—the farm still bears the name. He died at the latter part of the year 1744, in the 75th year of his age, and was buried in the graveyard of the Episcopal Chapel at Goodshaw. He was the author of the following works:—1. "Samson, a Type of Christ;" a sermon, a commendatory preface to which was written by the Rev. George Whitefield. 2. "Adam, where art thou? or, The Serious Parley;" a poem. 3. "The Old Man's Legacy to his Daughters." This work was edited by Mr. Crossley, only; but he added something of his own, on the advice of his friends, "That the Orphan Legacy might not venture abroad a second time without Company." (An edition had been published by him forty years before.) 4. "The Triumph of Sovereign Grace; or, A Brand plucked from out of the Fire; being the substance of a funeral discourse preached at Bacup, May 23rd, 1742, at the request, and on the occasion of the death of Lawrence Britliffe, late of Cliviger, near Burnley, who was executed at Lancaster, at the Lent Assizes, 1742." (d) It is said that a congregation of above four thousand people assembled in the open air to listen to this discourse. In its published form it occupies 127 pages 12mo.

The Baptist Church in Rossendale, at its formation, consisted of the united worshippers of Bacup and Cloughfold, and continued

(b) Appendix to the "Life of John Hirst," p. 321.

(c) *Ibid.*, p. 326.

(d) Lawrence Britliffe, executed at Lancaster in 1742, for having caused (unintentionally, it is believed) the death of a person at Holmes Chapel Wakes. The two had quarrelled, and Britliffe struck his opponent with a cordle or charnstaff, killing him on the spot.

so to exist until the year 1710, when they became two distinct Societies.

The old School or Meeting-House in Bacup, which I have had occasion repeatedly to mention, was the first building in Rossendale erected for the use of the Baptists. It was built expressly for Messrs. Mitchel and Crossley, and failing these, for all Dissenting Ministers of the Protestant Religion. These facts appear in the Trust Deed of the Building, dated April 16, 1692, from which the following extracts, minutely describing the uses to which it was to be applied, are made.

The original Feoffees in trust were John Lord, Broadclough; Lawrence Lord, Greensnook; John Hoyle, Bacopbooth, and John Holden, Priest-booth. The Building was to be used—

“1. For the purpose of a School-house.

“2. For the use of David Crossley and William Mitchel, both from Yorkshire, preachers of the Word of God, and of the doctrine of Christ, to pray, preach, and worship in, as often as they shall have occasion, and in their absence for all other such like ministers, now called or styled Protestant Dissenters. If two or more such ministers shall want the place for this purpose at the same time, the feoffees shall have the power to dispose of the place during the time the Dissenters shall be prohibited public worship, and when liberty is granted again, the said David Crossley and William Mitchel shall have the use of the meeting-house in preference to others.”

From the Deed of Admission, bearing date April 20th, 1694, a copy of which is now before me, we find that the plot or parcel of land was thirty yards in length, and sixteen yards in breadth, or thereabouts; that it belonged to John Whitaker, of Broadclough, from whom it was purchased for the sum of Thirty Pounds (e) by the Trustees or Feoffees before mentioned; that at the date of the Surrender it was in the Tenure or occupation of Joseph Ashworth, that it was of the Manor of Accrington Newhold, and that it was subject to the yearly rent to the Lady of the Manor of One Penny.

(e) Mr. Hargreaves, in his “Life of Hirst,” states £3, which I take to be an error.

Crossley at his decease was succeeded in the ministry at Bacup by Henry Lord, an able preacher, but, as his subsequent dereliction proved, scarcely suited to the sacred office. Dissensions began to arise amongst the members and congregation, many of them preferring the ministry of Joseph Piccop, a member of the same body, and a preacher of great promise. These dissensions continued, and the result was, the formation of a second Baptist Society in the town, the "New Meeting-House" being ultimately erected for their use. This was begun and completed in the latter half of the year 1746. Mr. Hargreaves in his life of Hirst gives some extracts from the Building accounts which are exceedingly interesting as affording a glimpse of the state of the labour market at that period. Compared with present times, the difference will be found to be sufficiently striking. I have taken the liberty to quote these extracts at length.

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----|---------|------------------|
| Mr _____ | To Richard Lord, Dr. | | | |
| 1746. | | £ | s. | d. |
| July 22.—To 1 day's work at ground work,..... | | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| " 23.—To $\frac{1}{2}$ a day 1 horse and self leading stone,..... | | 0 | 0 | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " 26.—To 1 day 1 do. do.,..... | | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| " 30.—To 1 day self filling stone,..... | | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| " 31.—To 1 day self and 2 horses leading corners, | | 0 | 2 | 7 |
| Aug. 16.—To 1 day self and Jemmy and 2 horses, | | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Sept. 11.—To 1 day self, 2 horses, and cart,..... | | 0 | 2 | 11 |
| Mr _____ | To David Hardman, Dr. | | | |
| To Robert Hardman, | 6 days | | | |
| To Matthew do. | 47 " | | | |
| To David do. | 73 " | | | |
| | | £ | s. | d. |
| | | 126 | come to | 6 16 6 |
| Abatement since the days grew short | | 0 | 2 | 8 |
| | Due | 6 | 13 | 10 |
| Other expenses were proportionable, as for instance :— | | | | |
| 1746. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Aug. 16.—Paid to W. Roberts for three dinners and drink, | | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| " 30.—Paid to do. for 5 dinners, | | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Sept. 5.—Paid to do. for meat and drink at the Rearing,..... | | 0 | 10 | 0 |

The original chapel in Lane Head Lane becoming too small, was taken down and rebuilt in the year 1778; and in 1783, owing to the congregation continuing to increase, a gallery was erected. In 1811 the Building was again pulled down, and a new Chapel capable of seating 900 people erected the year following. This latter has in its turn undergone material alterations, being almost entirely rebuilt, and converted into a spacious and beautiful School, which was opened Dec. 30, 1865. An entirely new Chapel was completed, and opened by the Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, in September, 1870. The structure is handsome and commodious in all respects, and provides sitting accommodation for 1,000 people.

Of the Cloughfold section of the early "Baptist Church in Rossendale," the following particulars are given in the writings there preserved. "On the 20th of March, 1703, was surrendered, by William Heap into the hands of Richard Holden, Simeon Lord, and John Hartley, the sum of £40, for ever thereafter to be laid out, employed, disposed of, and improved, to the best advantage, and one fourth part of the profits arising from the purchase to be given to Mr. William Mitchel of Bradford, Yorkshire, Clerk, during his life; and the three remaining parts thereof, and the said fourth part, after the decease of the said William Mitchel, unto the use and towards the maintenance of such person and persons as for the time being, and from time to time, for ever thereafter should be the ministers, pastors and teachers of the society or congregation of dissenting Protestants, at Cloughfold and Bacup, within the Forest of Rossendale."

From the above it appears that Bacup, before the division of the original Society into two bodies, was a joint participator with Cloughfold in Mr. Heap's bequest or gift of the profits to be derived from the investment of the £40. But the following further provision occurs:—"Provided always, and it is hereby agreed and declared that as often as there shall be at the same time two or more such Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the said Societies or Congregations at Bacopp and Cloughfold aforesaid,

they the said Trustees and their Executors may apply and dispose of the Interest and Increase of the forty pounds to such of the said Ministers as the Trustees or the major part of them shall think fit, a fourth part for the use of the said William Mitchel only excepted."

On the 11th February, 1705, "Robert Lichford, formerly of Blakely, in the County of Lancaster, gentleman, surrendered into the hands of the Lord and Lady of the Manor of Accrington, all that edifice or building standing within Cloughfold in the said Manor, heretofore purchased by him from one James Townend, to the use and behoof of Richard Holden, Richard Ashworth of Tunstead, Simeon Lord and John Hartley, who shall at all times for ever thereafter stand and be seised of the said edifice, for the use and benefit of all such Protestant Dissenters called Anabaptists, or Independents, within the Forest of Rossendale, and the places adjacent, as shall there from time to time assemble for religious worship, when the same shall be made fit and commodious for a chapel or meeting-house." The same liberal donor by his last Will and Testament, dated January 28th, 1710, gave and bequeathed unto the said Trustees for ever, the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds upon trust, that they should lay out and dispose of, or invest at interest or in an annuity, or otherwise to best advantage, the said sum, at their discretion, and from time to time employ and dispose of all the rents and profits, or increase thereof, (save and except the yearly sum of forty shillings to be given to the poor as directed,) for the use and benefit of such person or persons, as from time to time should be the minister, pastor, or teacher of the said congregation, provided they should not at any time thereafter neglect or forbear to assemble themselves at the said chapel for the exercise of religious worship by the space of six weeks in any one year.

No mention is here made of Bacup, the bequest being to Cloughfold alone. By this time the two sections of the original Baptist Church in Rossendale had become distinct and separate Societies.

During times of alteration or rebuilding, the congregation at Cloughfold has on more than one occasion assembled for divine service in the unfinished erection, in order to secure the bequest, and fulfil the provision of the will, that they should never be at one time, six weeks without preaching at the said chapel.

The two endowments referred to above, have accumulated, the £40 to £55, and the £150 to £205, being £260 in the whole; a very small augmentation, when the length of time, and the increase of the value of property in the district, are taken into account. A great want of foresight on the part of the earlier Trustees was displayed in the disposition of the two bequests. Had the original sum, instead of being put out at simple interest, been invested in the purchase of land, the increase in the realisable capital would probably now have been tenfold. But even this small accumulation is accidental, and is to be accounted for in this way, that during a certain number of years in the course of its existence, the church was without a minister, and consequently, the interest instead of being paid away was added to the capital.

About the year 1750, a small chapel was built at Lumb for the use of the Baptists residing in that neighbourhood. The circumstances which led to its erection are worth recalling. The inhabitants of the Lumb and Dean valleys have long been favourably known for their musical skill; and to cultivate their love of the art, it has been their custom for generations to hold meetings for practice in each others' houses. Sacred music was their *forte*, as it continues to be to this day, and it would seem to have exercised a hallowing influence upon their minds. Of these singers, John Nuttall and several others became members of the Baptist church at Bacup, then under the ministry of Joseph Piccop, and by their example and exhortations, and the reading aloud of religious authors at the musical gatherings, many were led to follow in their footsteps. Though the meeting-house at Lumb was built in 1750, three years elapsed before a church was formed. In May 1753, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was first administered to the

assembled members, John Nuttall having been chosen as their minister. After having been in existence at Lumb for some time, the congregation, for reasons not explicitly known, but probably to extend their influence and usefulness, moved in the year 1760 to the more populous neighbourhood of Goodshaw, where they had prepared a chapel. The meeting-house at Lumb was denuded of its furniture, and the pulpit and seats were carried on the backs of the congregation over the intervening hills to the newly erected domicile. Here Mr. Nuttall settled and continued to minister until his death on March 30th, 1792, aged 76, having successfully laboured among the people for the space of forty-five years.

The other Baptist Chapels in the district are of much more recent origin than those of Bacup, Cloughfold, and Goodshaw, and in the table given below the respective dates of their foundation are stated. From the early Baptist Churches in Rossendale have sprung a numerous progeny of kindred societies. The Baptist Churches at Rawden, near Leeds; Heaton, near Bradford; Gildersome and Hartwith, in Nidderdale; Rodhillend, near Todmorden; Stoneslack, near Heptonstall; Salendine Nook, and Cowling Hill, all confess their Rossendale parentage.

The following Table (*f*) gives some particulars of the present position of this denomination in Rossendale. The names of the Churches are placed in the order of the date of their foundation.

(*f*) Compiled chiefly from returns given in the Baptist Hand Book for 1893.

| Churches | Date of foundation. | Seats. | Members in 1892. | S. School Teachers. | Scholars. | Local preachers. | Pastors. | When Settled. | Association to which attached. |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Cloughfold | 1672 or before. | 750 | 248 | 38 | 280 | | W. C. Davies, B.A. | 1887 | Lancashire and Cheshire |
| Ebenezer, Bacup | 1710 | 1000 | 298 | 92 | 595 | 4 | F. Overend | 1884 | Ditto. |
| Newgate Rockliffe | | | | 5 | 55 | | | | |
| Goodshaw | 1753 | 780 | 185 | 27 | 402 | 1 | T. Thomas | 1884 | Ditto |
| Irwell Ter., Bacup | 1821 | 800 | 170 | 31 | 349 | | T. B. Field | 1892 | Ditto |
| Zion, Bacup | 1821 | 850 | 223 | 42 | 449 | | S. S. Baker | 1892 | Ditto |
| Lumb | 1828 | 800 | 288 | 35 | 511 | 2 | Thomas Stansfield | 1888 | Ditto |
| Tong, Bacup | 1846 | 200 | 46 | 14 | 80 | | | | None |
| Gambleside | 1844 | 500 | 77 | 15 | 180 | 2 | | | Lancashire and Cheshire |
| Sunnyside | 1847 | 500 | 142 | 26 | 275 | 1 | S. R. Aldridge, B.A., L.L.D. | 1888 | Ditto |
| Waterbarn | 1847 | 950 | 334 | 67 | 580 | 6 | | | Ditto |
| General Baptists, Bacup | 1852 | 300 | 52 | 16 | 90 | 2 | | | Rossendale Association |
| Edgeside | 1853 | 650 | 141 | 31 | 172 | | R. Heyworth | 1882 | Lancashire and Cheshire |
| Waterfoot | 1854 | 650 | 172 | 32 | 320 | 1 | J. Young | 1891 | Ditto |
| Goodshawfold | 1854 | 200 | 14 | 25 | 125 | 8 | | | None |
| Doals, Bacup | 1867 | 350 | 102 | 37 | 260 | 3 | | | Lancashire and Cheshire |
| Acre Mill, Bacup | 1871 | 500 | 131 | 36 | 405 | | W. Morgan | | Ditto |
| Rawtenstall | 1872 | 300 | 86 | 19 | 140 | | | 1891 | Ditto |

Amongst the Baptist Churches in Rossendale have appeared several men who were remarkable for their ability as ministers of the Gospel. To Mitchel and Crossley reference has already been

made. Joseph Piccop, who may be considered as the legitimate successor of Crossley at Bacup—the church under Henry Lord having eventually become extinct—was a man cast in no ordinary mould. Born and nurtured in the humblest possible circumstances, for even in his manhood he was at first only a day-labourer, lacking the rudiments of education, and far removed from the knowledge and wisdom which Colleges are supposed to impart, he yet rose to distinction as a public teacher; and on frequent occasions in the metropolis (for he often visited London) his eloquent and earnest discourses were listened to and admired by those best capable of judging of their worth.

Mr. Hargreaves relates an anecdote of the man, which serves to exhibit one phase of his character. “Mr. Piccop,” says the author of the life of John Hirst, “being engaged for the first time to preach at a certain chapel in the city, arrived at the vestry and sat down as an unknown stranger. It should be remarked that Mr. Piccop did not make a very genteel appearance. The hour appointed for the service approached, and several people came into the vestry. After waiting some time in expectation of the Preacher’s arrival, they began to express their fears of a disappointment. Mr. Piccop suffered their patience to be pretty well tried, and then, after inquiring if the hour was come, arose and ascended the pulpit, to the no small astonishment and disgust of the people. Their behaviour in the commencement of the services, betrayed their uneasiness and disapprobation. After prayer they appeared a little more reconciled to the preacher. Before Mr. Piccop read his text, which on that occasion was Amos iii. 12, it is reported that he spoke to the following effect: ‘That there is nothing very inviting in my outward appearance is evident to all; and whether there is anything within that will be more engaging, is not for me to say; but of that you will be better able to judge for yourselves presently—however, such as I have, I give. I will set before you “Two legs, and a piece of an ear,”’ and then he proceeded marvellously to expound and apply his singular text. A certain gentleman who had been very agreeably disappointed,

thanking Mr. Piccop for the discourse, hinted that he had exceeded the usual time, observing that he should have noticed his watch. Mr. Piccop, in his rustic simplicity, informed him that he never had a watch in his life, upon which the gentleman drew his from his pocket and presented it to him, declaring he should not be without one any longer. Such was his popularity in London, that a congregation would have assembled to hear him at five o'clock in the morning." He was born at Loveclough, near Crawshawbooth, and died there in September 1772, the immediate cause of his death being cancer in the breast. His remains lie buried within Ebenezer Chapel-yard, Bacup.

John Hirst, the successor of Piccop, and who ministered at Bacup during a period of forty-two years, was also in many respects a remarkable man. He was born at Rochdale in 1736, and was the youngest of seven children. The circumstances of his early years were not promising—nay, they were altogether unpropitious; yet, by his native strength of mind and diligent and determined spirit, he became a preacher of great originality and power, and left his mark upon the times. He died June 15th, 1815, in the 79th year of his age, and was buried by the side of Piccop, his worthy predecessor. His aged widow, who was ten years his senior, survived him only fifteen days.



CHAPTER VI.

"Ye Doctors of Divinity
Of decent reasons full,
This man is rich where ye are bare,
And bright where ye are dull.
— With his strange creed,
And logic loose arrayed,
He is a worker hath sown seed
Where ye ne'er raised a spade."

AS the names of Mitchel and Crossley are intimately interwoven with the rise and progress of the Baptist denomination in Rossendale, so much so, that it is impossible to speak of the latter without referring to the former; so in like manner the names of William Darney and John Maden, are inseparably connected with the introduction of Methodism into the district. I propose to furnish a short sketch of the life of the first Rossendale Methodist, and incidentally to mark the rise in this neighbourhood of the important sect to which he belonged.

Mr. Maden was born near Bacup on the 4th day of December, 1724. In his younger years Methodism was just beginning to make headway throughout the country, but it was quite unknown in the Forest of Rossendale, and it was chiefly owing to his instrumentality that it was introduced into this district. One of the "New Sort of Preachers," as they were then termed, (for the name "Methodist" had not yet been applied to them,) was announced to preach in a barn at Gauksholme, near Todmorden, and Mr. Maden was induced by an acquaintance to go and hear him. The preaching of Mr. William Darney, for that was the minister's name, produced a deep and lasting impression on the

mind of Mr. Maden, and he shortly afterwards united himself to a small band of persons (ten in number) at Todmorden, zealous followers of their great leader, John Wesley. The new convert was earnest and enthusiastic in the faith he had espoused, and accordingly we find him, in fair weather and in foul, on week-days as well as on the Sabbath, at his place in the meeting-house, though the latter was five or six miles distant from his home.

Mr. Maden soon became desirous that a society should be formed in Rossendale, and with this object in view he invited Mr. Darney over, who, in response to the invitation, came, and in the year 1744 preached for the first time in this part of the country at Heap Barn, situated in the fields, a little to the north-west of Sharneyford, on the Todmorden Road. He afterwards preached at Miller Barn, in Wolfenden Booth, where a society was formed, the first of the kind in Rossendale, of which Mr. Maden was constituted the leader. The office of leader was no easy or enviable one in those days of single-handed effort, but Mr. Maden was possessed of an earnest indomitable spirit, not easily to be subdued or turned aside, and the work he undertook to accomplish greatly prospered in his hands. Kindred societies were soon afterwards formed by his efforts, aided by others who had espoused the tenets of the new sect, and for many years they were known by the name of "William Darney Societies," in honour of their founder in Rossendale.

Mr. Maden now married, and his wife held views similar to his own, but she lived only three years after their union. At this time he took a farm in the neighbourhood, and opened his house for divine service, having made a pulpit for the use of the preachers. It is highly probable that Messrs. Darney, Maskew, Colbeck, and others, celebrated in the early days of Methodism, officiated in this pulpit.

The congregation increasing, another house was taken, which in turn very soon proved too small to contain those that came to worship. The use of the Baptist meeting-house, or "the old school," as it was called, was then obtained for a short time, and

here the society continued its labours. To accommodate the increasing congregation, though the number of members continued small, and consisted mostly of poor people, "Mr. Maden conceived the design of building a chapel." The difficulties which had to be overcome in the carrying out of this project were very great, for, in addition to the poverty of the societies, popular prejudice was opposed to them, and threw many obstacles in their way. On this subject the remarks of the Rev. Samuel Taylor, (a) at one time a minister in this circuit, are worth quoting, and we give them entire.

"The difficulties attending the enterprise appeared almost insurmountable; but he (Mr. Maden) and two others, going to hear Mr. Bennet preach, the building of a chapel became the subject of a conversation on their return. J. Maden and J. Earnshaw engaged to give a sum of money sufficient to purchase a piece of ground; while N. Slater, in the simplicity of his heart, promised *sixpence*, which he then produced, saying, 'It is all I have at present, but I will give more when I get it.' These, with the aid of the poor society, were the first subscriptions towards building the chapel at Bacup. Having some knowledge of architecture, brother Maden also promised one hundred days' work; and sometimes while the mason (b) was employed in dressing the stones, he went into the country to collect money for the carrying on of the work. Soon after the foundation was laid the whole weight of the undertaking devolved upon him; which after many obstructions, was completed free from any pecuniary burden; when it was opened by the venerable founder of Methodism. On this memorable and joyous occasion, the subject of this memoir poured forth his devout heart in the elevated language of the royal Psalmist, 'How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! my soul longeth, yea,

(a) We are mainly indebted for the particulars contained in the present chapter to an account of the Life of John Maden, by the Rev. Samuel Taylor, which appeared in the Methodist Magazine for July 1811.

(b) Mark the expression, "the mason." There appears to have been only one mason employed.

even fainteth for the courts of the Lord ; my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.' Having been a principal instrument in building a house for the Lord, our brother gratefully enjoyed the privilege of hearing the doctrines of Salvation explained, enforced, and defended ; and of worshipping the Lord Jehovah in spirit and in truth.

The building which was raised as a Chapel, as above described, still stands in Lane Head Lane ; but it has undergone alterations since the days of its erection. Not very long ago it was occupied as a school. A portion of it is now converted into cottages, and in the other portion were recently heard the sound of the saw and the plane, where once the voice of John Wesley resounded. With reference to his visit to Bacup on this occasion, the following entry occurs in Mr. Wesley's Journal :—

"Tuesday, July 14th, 1761. About noon I preached at Bacup, a village in Rossendale. The new preaching house is large, but not large enough to contain the congregation." (c)

Like all great movements which have set their seal upon men, the early history of Methodism presents a picture of anxious and unceasing struggling against the prejudices and ignorance of man-

(c) The following extracts, from the Rev. John Wesley's Journal, have reference to other visits which he paid to Rossendale, besides the one mentioned above :—

"Thursday, May 7, 1747. We left the mountains (around Todmorden) and came down to the fruitful valley of Rossendale. Here I preached to a large congregation of wild men ; but it pleased God to hold them in chains. So that even when I had done, none offered any rudeness, but all went quietly away."

"Wednesday, August 30th, 1766. I rode (from Padiham) to Rossendale, which, notwithstanding its name, is little else than a chain of mountains. The rain in the evening obliged me to preach in the new house, near a village called New Church. As many as could crowded in, and many more stood at the door. But many were constrained to go away."

"Thursday, 31. I preached at Bacup, and then rode on to Heptonstall."

"Tuesday, April 13, 1779. I preached at nine to a crowded audience in the new house at Bacup."

kind. Poverty also, as in the present instance, would sometimes stand up with huge shoulders, in the forward front, narrowing still more the narrow path ; but the devoted few throughout the country toiled on, a heroic band of faithful workers, till the highest peak in the hill of Difficulty was surmounted, and the wide expanse of table-land was seen to stretch broad on the right hand, and on the left, and away in the fore distance till the horizon was its only boundary. Here they rested, so much nearer heaven than when they set out on their enterprise, and verily they had their reward.

Poor Slater's humble contribution is apt to provoke a smile ; but was he not the counterpart of that poor widow, of whom the Great Master, when He saw her cast her mite into the treasury, said—“ Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury ; for all they did cast in of their abundance, but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living ” ?

Mr. Maden entered into business, but was unsuccessful at first, and this caused him much trouble and anxiety of mind. He afterwards recovered himself, however, for it is said that he was possessed of four farms when he died. (d)

Mr. Maden married a second time. The following account of his death is given by the Rev. Samuel Taylor :—

“A little before he finished his earthly career, he said to a friend who called to see him : ‘ I and my partner in life have reason to bless God for all His mercies. She has proved a helpmate indeed. We have taken sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in company.’ He exhorted his children to live in peace with one another, and having, like the venerable Patriarch, ‘ made an end of commanding them, he gathered up his feet, and yielded up the ghost.’ ”

(d) He seems to have been of an ingenious turn, for he was the first that applied wheels to the old Bocking Shuttles to make them run smoothly. Before this improvement two persons were required, one on each side of the loom, to propel the heavy shuttle backward and forward : with the wheels affixed one person can perform the work with ease.

He was interred at Bacup. His grave is near to the front entrance to Mount Pleasant Chapel. The following is the inscription on the tombstone :—

“Beneath this stone are deposited the earthly remains of John Maden, who having been an ornamental and useful member of the Methodist Society nearly 65 years, left this world in joyful hope of a better, April 21, 1809, in the 85th year of his age.”

William Darney, who was a Scotchman, was a preacher of much originality and power ; a man in many respects calculated to be the pioneer of a great movement. Of an ardent temperament, and courageous to a degree, he courted opposition that he might brave and defy it.

In the prosecution of his arduous and self-denying labours, he suffered persecution and imprisonment. “His wild notes, at first like a discordant tone, were preparatory to the richest harmony. There was a rich vein of evangelical truth in his preaching, looking occasionally to the Calvinistic side of the question, and often delivered with the quaintness of some of the old Puritan Preachers, which pleased and profited many. Perhaps, too, his popularity was not diminished by his frequently, at the close of his sermon, giving out an extemporary hymn, adapted to the subject upon which he had been discoursing.” (e)

The rapid progress of the Methodist denomination throughout the country generally, and within the Forest of Rossendale in particular, affords a striking example of what may be accomplished by united and voluntary effort. The affairs of the body are conducted with an amount of shrewdness and energy which command our admiration and respect. Amongst their members are to be found many who have been highly successful in business ; and these have contributed to the advancement of the society with a conspicuous and praiseworthy liberality.

The number of Methodist Chapels of all kinds within the Forest is twenty-two. Of these, ten belong to the old Wesleyans, seven to the United Methodists, and five to the Primitives ; 2,500 being about the aggregate number of members.

(e) Everett's Wesleyan Methodism in Manchester, and its vicinity, p. 32.

The Friends, or Quakers, established themselves in Rossendale about, or shortly after, the middle of the seventeenth century. Their first place of meeting was in a small walled, but roofless enclosure at Chapel Hill (hence the name), a considerable eminence bounding the valley to the north-east of Rawtenstall. This enclosure was also used as their burying-place, as appears by the following inscription above the entrance: "Friends' Burial Ground, 1663. The walls rebuilt 1847." At one time a stone ledge ran round the walls, inside, and this afforded sitting accommodation to the worshippers. Later, until the erection in 1716 of their present Meeting-house at Crawshawbooth, they were accustomed to assemble in one of the rooms of a farm-house near to the same place. The first interment in the burial ground at Chapel Hill took place in 1663, and the last in 1849. The first interment at Crawshawbooth in 1728. In the earlier years of their existence, the Friends suffered persecution for conscience sake. The Crawshawbooth register records cases of imprisonment in Lancaster Castle on account of tithes, and in other matters bears witness to the intolerance exercised towards the members of this small community in Rossendale. Representatives of the Quaker families of Gurney, Field, and Fox, occasionally attended the Meeting-house at Crawshawbooth about the beginning of the century; and the celebrated Elizabeth Fry held public meetings there in 1818 and 1828. Their numbers in Rossendale, never very considerable, have gradually diminished to about twelve at the present time.

The Unitarians have places of worship at Rawtenstall and Newchurch respectively. The original chapel at Rawtenstall, erected in 1760, is now, and for many years past has been, used as a joiner's shop or warehouse. Many interments took place within it; amongst others, that of the minister, John Ingham, of Crawshawbooth, who officiated in it for fifty-one years, down to the time of his decease in 1833. A tablet to his memory is in the New Chapel. The old school in the Fold, at Rawtenstall, was originally intended to have been built as an upper room over this chapel, but it was subsequently erected on a separate plot of



Friends Meeting House, Crawshawbooth

Illustration

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, CRAWSHAWBOOTH

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Henry and Henry, Photo.

Haslingden.

FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE, CRAWSHAWBOOTH.

copyhold ground near, given by George Pickup, and conveyed by him to John Pickup and others in trust on the 31st of August, 1815. This school was partly built by subscription; and, according to the surrender, was intended for the purpose of a master from time to time to teach reading, writing, arithmetic, and to instruct and educate the present and future generations of children residing in the township of Lower Booths and elsewhere, pursuant to certain rules set forth in a book of statutes bearing equal date with the surrender. And also for a free school on Sundays, for a master or masters to teach children to read the Bible and other useful and necessary learning in the English language. A list of the subscribers, in the possession of the late Henry King, of Oakley, gives £74 3s. as the sum collected towards the erection of the building.

The Trust Deed of the Chapel bears date May 17th, 1760, the building being put in trust "for the use of Protestant Dissenters distinguished by the name of Independents, so long as there was a minister to preach in it, and a congregation to meet in it, that could and should subscribe unto a Book of Articles, entitled, 'An answer to every one that asketh a reason of the hope that is in us.'"

The first minister was Richard Whittaker, who preached here about twenty years, and he was succeeded by John Ingham, above mentioned. When the minister and congregation became Unitarian, about 1821, they obtained a yearly grant from the Trustees of Lady Hewley's Fund. The new chapel at Rawtenstall was erected in 1853; that at Newchurch about 1816.

The Independents have one chapel in Rossendale, viz., at Bacup. They began meeting in 1848, and in 1852 they occupied a room in Union Street, Mr. Waite being the first minister. The present chapel, in South Street, was built in 1853.

There are altogether over seventy places of worship in Rossendale. All of these (except the Friends) have one or more Sunday Schools, and many of them Day Schools attached, though the latter are being gradually taken over by the School Boards.

BOOK SIXTH.



CHAPTER I.

"All men are interested in their ancestors.

All men love to look back into the days that are past."

T. LOVE PEACOCK,—*The Four Ages of Poetry*.

THE question has been asked : From whence did the bulk of the original inhabitants of Rossendale spring ? I have devoted some attention to the subject, and am led to the conclusion that it was from Pendle and the district around it, including Clitheroe and some distance northward, and also in a southerly direction winding down towards Blackburn on the west, to Burnley on the east, that the original inhabitants of Rossendale, at the time of the disforestation or "Granting of the Forests," three hundred and eighty-six years ago, and during subsequent years, actually came.

My chief reasons for arriving at this conclusion are these : If we recognize the circumstances of the two districts, there will be found striking coincidences to incline the people one to the other ; and if we examine the distinctive names of many of the places and objects in and about Pendle, Clitheroe, and the adjacent country, and compare them with names of places and objects in Rossendale, we shall find not only a similarity or family likeness, but in some instances a positive identity, thus :

Both Pendle and Rossendale are of the same hilly character ; both were part of the Ancient "Forest of Blackburnshire" in early days, and they have always been under the same lord of the honor.

These three broad facts constitute the general circumstances associating the two places. Then, as regards the names of places and objects: The main stream running through Pendle was called "Pendle water," just as the Irwell was formerly called "Rossendale water." For example: In the Palatine Note Book, Vol. III., p. 210, it is stated (being an extract from an ancient writing) that "Richard de Radcliffe, of Ordsall, Manchester, [son of John de Radcliffe, Chevalier of Ordsall] Escheator of Lancashire, was drowned in Rossendale Water in the year 1380." "Rossendale Water," *i.e.*, the water coming down from or having its rise in Rossendale. Further, there is Newchurch in Pendle, and the river Whitewell in Bowland; we have Newchurch also and the river Whitewell in Rossendale. In Pendle, there is Walverden [Wolverden], in Rossendale we have Wolfenden. In Pendle, Rough Lee Booth, we have Rough Lee in Rossendale. There is a Goldshaw Booth in Pendle, and a Goodshaw Booth in Rossendale. Old Laund Booth, Pendle, and a Laund in Rossendale. In Rattonclough, there is a near resemblance to Rawtenstall. In Pendle and the surrounding district, there are also Dean, Pike Law, Hey Houses, Lane Head, Lane Side, Sykes, Crawshaw Hill, Blackwood, Bull Hole, Hollins, New Hall, Healdwood, Carr Hall, Green Nook, Trough Laith, Water Barn, Rake Head, all of which names have their close counterpart in Rossendale.

Looking at this remarkable list, it must be granted that the similarity, and in many cases the identity which exists between the names in the two districts, is not a matter of mere accident, but that the origin of the names, or rather their application, must have arisen in the mutual intercourse that existed between the inhabitants of the one district and the other. The identity, which is indeed too strikingly obvious to be ignored, cannot be explained in any other way.

It is quite admissible to assume that some of the names may have been carried northward from Rossendale, for, without doubt, Rossendale could lend as well as borrow—there would, in short, be an interchange of names, less or more, though it is highly probable

that the bulk of them came south, from the mother-district of Clitheroe.

That there was this intercourse in those early days there can be no question—an intercourse amounting to association and inter-marriage, and commerce (using the word in its original sense) between the two, by reason of identity of circumstances, interests and natural affinity.

The district from Burnley and Blackburn to Clitheroe, Pendle, and beyond, was more accessible to and from Rossendale than any other of the adjacent districts. There are no fewer than three direct roads at the present time leading from Rossendale to Burnley, and thence branching off to Blackburn to the left, namely:—Through Crawshawbooth; through Newchurch, Lumb and Water; and by way of Broadclough, Bacup. And although these roads, as they exist at present, are of comparatively recent construction, yet, there can be no manner of doubt, that there have been, from days immemorial, footpaths or tracks in the same direction. All the lime for building purposes was brought from Clitheroe by way of these tracks on the backs of horses, or “lime gals” as they were called, until within comparatively recent times.

Again, it is well known, that before the erection in 1511 (3d Henry VIII.) of the Chapel of Ease (as it was originally called), at Newchurch, the Castle and Church of Clitheroe was the Parish Church of Rossendale. And although the distance was great, about fifteen miles as the crow flies, and the way in those days leading between Rossendale and the said Parish Church was “very foul, painful and hillous” (quoting the description given in the decree of the Duchy Chancellor 4th Edward VI.), the inhabitants of Rossendale, or such of them as were not too infirm to undertake the journey, regularly attended the mother church at Clitheroe. Rossendale marriages were solemnized there, infants from the Forest were taken there to be christened, and the dead were carried hence to Clitheroe to be buried. Associations of this kind are the most binding in human nature. There was thus a constant

and familiar and family intercourse between the scattered inhabitants of the Forest of Rossendale and those of the district where their Parish Church was situated, and frequent meetings, visitings, and junketings would be the result.

The Forest servants of the lord of the honor naturally came from Clitheroe, and the herdsmen in charge of the cattle belonging to Whalley Abbey in the grazing lands in Rossendale that were at that time the property of the Abbot and monks, were sent here from the same district. The original chapel at Newchurch was undoubtedly erected largely by contributions from Whalley Abbey, to meet the spiritual wants of the then Catholic inhabitants.

Further, nearly all the present characteristic Rossendale surnames, notably the Howarths, Haworths, Holts, Rostrons, Whittakers (spelt with both single and double t), are to be found in the neighbourhood in question, and they are particularly abundant in the Blackburn direction.

The characteristics of the native inhabitants of both places or districts are also very similar to this day, the chief of these being a stolid exterior appearance, relieved and brightened by a rough and ready, but not unkindly humour, expressed with a persistent adherence to dialectical speech, even in cases where a certain culture might be expected to eradicate the tendency.

It will be understood that I am dealing only with the undoubted Rossendalian. It is only by going back to, and making a study of, the original stock in both districts, that the characteristics mentioned are to be observed. The remarks do not apply to all the inhabitants of Rossendale, or even the bulk of them, at the present day. The continual influx and reflux of population, and even the nature and vicissitudes of trade and occupation produce changes of character and temperament, and modify the peculiarities of race even in those instances where it is purest.

The inhabitants of the Forest of Rossendale are proverbial for their shrewd, enterprising character. Possessing largely the faculty of acquiring and accumulating money, they combine therewith the

gift of a wise economy in spending it. With praiseworthy industry they have surrounded their firesides with those material comforts which are denied by Nature to the barren and unfruitful soil of their district. And yet to charge Nature with withholding her bountiful hand were ungenerous: the abundant supply of coal, the almost inexhaustible mines of excellent stone which crop out on every slope, and the numberless streams that travel down the hill-sides to the bosom of the ample valley below; all these, Nature has bestowed on Rossendale with lavish prodigality, and all have contributed to raise her to her present importance as a manufacturing district.

There is little of what is called "ancient blood" in the locality. A few of the oldest families can trace their ancestors back through two or three centuries, but the chief men of wealth and position in Rossendale have risen from the ranks, and with little ostentation and display they yet surround themselves with the substantial comforts and even the elegancies of life.

One key to the secret of the success and growing importance of Rossendale is to be found in the circumstance that the spirit of absenteeism has never prevailed to any extent amongst those who have amassed fortunes in the district. They live, as a rule, in the locality, and many of them take an active interest in its progress. The numerous tasteful residences which adorn the hill-sides, and whose cultivated grounds, neatly laid out and planted, relieve the landscape, are evidence of a healthy state of feeling, and of a prevailing desire that the prosperity of the district shall be as permanent as it has been rapid.

In order to show the measure of this prosperity and the rate of its increase within the present century, I have compiled the subjoined table of the annual value of the rateable property in the several townships comprised within the Forest of Rossendale in the several years named. The area of each Township or Booth is also given :—

FOREST OF ROSSENDALE.

*Annual Value of the Rateable Property, and the Acreage of each Township,
according to the Ordnance Survey, in Statute Measure.*

| Name of Township. | 1815 | 1829 | 1841 | 1854 | 1866 | 1872 | 1877 | 1884 | 1892 | Acreage. |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Coupe, Lench, Newhallhey and Hall Carr | £ 8627 ^a | 2494 | 4916 | 5083 | 10867 | 11026 | 13504 | 13984 | 13570 | 1499 |
| Dunnochshaw | 225 | 225 | 321 | 301 | 686 | 798 | 870 | 910 | 1420 | 389 |
| Henheads | .. | 444 | 641 | 721 | 826 | 846 | 1118 | 1720 | 1334 | 317 |
| Higher Booths | .. | 7961 | 11569 | 10439 | 17497 | 20260 | 24482 | 24010 | 26104 | 4412 |
| Lower Booths | .. | 4452 | 6220 | 8468 | 14500 | 15118 | 22442 | 24684 | 21634 | 1600 |
| Musbury | 1299 | 2379 | 2544 | 2552 | 3567 | 4150 | 5168 | 5988 | 5474 | 1714 |
| Newchurch, Deadwen Clough, Bacup and Wolfenden | 7400 | 17278 | 24444 | 35891 | 67560 | 79468 | 94296 | 93664 | 92478 | 5857 |
| Yate and Pickup Bank | 1358 | 1841 | 1924 | 1664 | 1776 | 1544 | 2278 | 2444 | 2204 | 850 |
| Part of the Township of Spotland, viz :— Brandwood, Higher and Lower Ends. | 3311 | 4552 | 6456 | 7996 | 18000 | 26220 | 32544 | 39140 | 35568 | 2867 |
| Total | 30271 | 41626 | 59035 | 73115 | 135273 | 159430 | 196702 | 207444 | 199786 | 19595 |
| | | Incr'se 37·5 per cent. | Incr'se 41·8 per cent. | Incr'se 23·8 per cent. | Incr'se 85 per cent. | Incr'se 17·8 per cent. | Incr'se 23·4 per cent. | Incr'se 5·5 per cent. | D'tr'se 3·7 per cent. | |

(a) I am inclined to think that there must have been an error here, which was corrected in subsequent valuations.

The annual rental as represented by the County Rate Valuation of 1892, shows an increase of 152,195 per cent. on the "advanced rents," amounting in the aggregate to £131 3s. 8d., confirmed by King James I. On the valuation of 1815, the increase to the present time (or within a period of seventy-seven years) is 560 per cent.

The increase in the amount and value of property in any district is in a great measure dependent on the growth of the population therein. This fact receives striking confirmation in the population statistics of the Forest of Rossendale.

At the time of the building of the New Church in A.D. 1511, the population probably did not exceed 200 souls; about nine years before, they numbered only 20. In 1551, or 40 years afterwards, they had grown to 1000, young and old. While one hundred years later, during the Commonwealth, they had increased to about 3000 or 3500 souls.

The next table which has been carefully compiled from the different census returns from 1801 to 1891, is as interesting as the one given above, and may be accepted as an exact statement of the population of Rossendale :—

FOREST OF ROSSENDALE.

Population of the different Townships, according to the Census Returns from 1801 to 1891, inclusive.

| Name of Township. | 1801 Popu- lation. | 1811 Popu- lation. | 1821 Popu- lation. | 1831 Popu- lation. | 1841 Popu- lation. | 1851 Popu- lation. | 1861 Popu- lation. | 1871 Popu- lation. | 1881 Popu- lation. | 1891 Popu- lation. |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Coupe, Lench, Newhallhey and Hall Carr... | 676 | 786 | 1224 | 1519 | 1716 | 2154 | 2851 | 3638 | 3695 | 3600 |
| Dunrocks... | 54 | 63 | 76 | 46 | 41 | 86 | 167 | 186 | 212 | 184 |
| Henheads... | 122 | 195 | 246 | 202 | 176 | 160 | 211 | 201 | 233 | 235 |
| Higher Booths... | 1607 | 2568 | 3172 | 4347 | 3652 | 3827 | 5131 | 5667 | 6239 | 6765 |
| Lower Booths... | 934 | 1178 | 1513 | 2178 | 2464 | 3778 | 4655 | 5114 | 6196 | 6994 |
| Musbury... | 463 | 589 | 728 | 1231 | 1386 | 1228 | 997 | 1130 | 1010 | 1114 |
| Newchurch, Deadwen Clough, Bacup and | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wolfenden... | 5046 | 6030 | 8557 | 9196 | 11668 | 16015 | 24413 | 26823 | 28261 | 26217 ^b |
| Yate and Pickup Bank... | 1045 | 1230 | 1359 | 1209 | 1068 | 1208 | 1111 | 766 ^(b) | 682 ^(b) | 581 |
| Part of the Township of Spotland, viz:— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brandwood Higher and Lower Ends.... | 1527 | 2078 | 2591 | 3059 | 3403 | 4507 | 6070 | 6822 | 8436 | 9428 |
| Total | 11474 | 15617 | 19466 | 22987 | 25574 | 33863 | 45606 | 50347 | 54964 | 55118 |
| | | Incr'se 36·1 per cent. | Incr'se 24·7 per cent. | Incr'se 18·1 per cent. | Incr'se 11·2 per cent. | Incr'se 32·4 per cent. | Incr'se 34·7 per cent. | Incr'se 10·4 per cent. | Incr'se 9·2 per cent. | Incr'se 0·3 per cent. |

(b) The decrease of population in the Township of Yate and Pickup Bank is attributed to migration to the manufacturing districts, and in Bacup to the stoppage of certain cotton mills and other works.

The increase in the amount of population between 1801 and 1891, a period of ninety years, is 380 per cent. In Rossendale the Females exceed the Males by about 12 per cent.

The cotton dearth, consequent on the Civil War in America, denuded Rossendale of a portion of its population, many families having migrated into Yorkshire and other districts in search of employment. With the resumption of work, however, at the various mills in 1865, many of these families returned.

The wide district embraced within the ancient Forest of Rossendale, is now, for the chief part, parcelled out between two considerable Municipal Boroughs. Bacup, to which a charter of incorporation was granted on August 22nd, 1882, and Rawtenstall, the date of whose charter is February 2nd, 1891.

Bacup is divided into six Wards, viz. :— Brandwood, Tong, Greens, Broadclough, Tunstead, and Irwell. The first mayor was Mr. Alderman John Hargreaves. The Market Hall, a handsome and commodious building, is in the Italian style of architecture, and in connection with this is the Council Chamber and Town Clerk's Offices. A large and beautiful Cemetery, belonging to the town, provided at a cost of £16,000, is situated at Fairwell. The Area of the Borough is 6400 statute acres ; Rateable Value £78,713, and the population (census 1891) 23,498.

Rawtenstall is also divided into six Wards, viz. :—North Central, South Central, East, South-East, West and North. The first mayor was Mr. Alderman William Lord, 1891-2. The Area of the Borough is 9528 statute acres ; Rateable Value £106,507, and the population (census, 1891), 29,507.



NEWCHURCH ROSSENDALE



NEWCHURCH ROSENDALE.

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of hills, with all the associations connected with their venerable antiquity, is an ever-abiding source of interest and wonder to the thoughtful dweller in their midst. As the scars and ridges on the human face lend character to the man, so do the hills and valleys give character to a district. We feel that there is such of history there as no extent of level plain, however interminable, can contribute.

It is somewhat of a reflection on many people living in the district, that they do not realise what Rossendale really is. They burrow and grub in the valleys, cribbed, cabined and confined, all unconscious of the glory of the hills and wide breezy moorlands by which they are environed. A gusty day on the uplands is an experience not to be lightly appreciated. Wind on the hills is altogether different to wind in the valleys. On the high, broad moorlands it revels in its strength. It is a living presence which commands respect. With its giant arms it turns you and bends you and twists you about like a withered stick. For an instant it holds you in its grasp as though blowing from every point of the compass at once ; then it gives you a push, and away—away you can hear it whisper, and carol, and sing, and laugh as it careers over the heather and bent. Now again you listen to it raving and blustering in the near distance, and with a spring it again suddenly pounces upon you unawares. But though it buffets and smites, it is always with a gloved hand, and there is health in its blows and buffetings that cannot be had for the buying !

But if the hills, always beautiful objects in themselves, rising on each side of the valley, serve to create purifying currents of air, healthful and invigorating in their action, they entail certain disadvantages upon the residents in their locality—disadvantages which are common to most mountainous districts—they bring down the rain in plentiful abundance. This, combined with the heavy nature of the soil, and its thick substratum of clay, renders the climate damp and foggy, and, in certain directions of the wind, exceptionally cold, anything but congenial to delicate organisations. A healthy and strong constitution will thrive and grow stronger

amidst the air of the Rossendale hills, but for persons of delicate frame there are doubtless more desirable places of abode.

In its abundant rains, however, Rossendale possesses advantages which it would be unfair to overlook—they fill its wells to overflowing, providing copious supplies of water for domestic and sanitary purposes; and they cleanse the streets of its villages and towns from accumulations of impure matter.

From a record of observations which has been kept, it appears that the average rain-fall in Rossendale is 40 inches; and that the days on which rain falls amount in number to 165. According to the best authorities, the average annual rain-fall in England ranges from 29 to 31 inches. It would appear, therefore, that in this particular Rossendale is 10 inches, or 33 per cent. above the average. (*a*)

Taking the rain-fall at 40 inches, no less a quantity than 2,592,844 tons of water is thus deposited annually on every square mile of surface in Rossendale: or for its entire area, the enormous total of 79,003,956 tons!

The mean temperature of the district, according to the observations before referred to, is 45 degrees Fahr., being 4 degrees below that of Greenwich. (*b*)

The valley of Rossendale is essentially a manufacturing district. Its agricultural capabilities are not such as to attract the husbandman, or adequately to repay him for his toil. Its prevailing formation being an unkindly rock, and its soil of an uncongenial clayey character—damp and cold—it possesses but few of those features of beneficent vegetation, so grateful to the eye, which distinguish the limestone and some other districts of England.

(*a*) In order that readers may be enabled to compare Rossendale with other districts, the number of rainy days, and the average annual deposit of rain, in inches, at the following places is given:—Edinburgh: Average number of days on which rain falls, 149; depth of rain, 22 inches. Glasgow, 166; 33. Manchester, 161; 35. Liverpool, 154; 34. Hull, 153; 23. Kendal, 146; 60. Keswick, 128; 67. Borrowdale, Cumberland, 180; 125.

(*b*) The mean temperature of Greenwich is 49°, Dublin, 48·6°, Edinburgh, 46·8°.

Dairy farming is the only class of agriculture which is profitable. Butter and milk of average quality are produced; and the abundant population of the valleys supplies the farmer with a ready market for the sale of these commodities. Epidemic diseases have rarely prevailed to any great extent in Rossendale.

The following table of Births and Deaths, though not embracing the whole of Rossendale (c) yet comprises the greater portion of it, and the conclusions deducible therefrom may be safely assumed to apply to the entire district :—

| FOREST OF ROSSENDALE. | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Births and Deaths Registered in the Townships of Newchurch, Deadwen Clough, Bacup, Tunstead with Wolfenden, Higher and Lower Booths, Coupe, Lench, Newhallhey and Hall Carr, during the two years 1891 and 1892. | | | | | | | |
| Names of Townships. | Population in Registrars' District, 1891. | Births, 1891. | Births, 1892. | Average. | Deaths, 1891. | Deaths, 1892. | Average. |
| Newchurch, Dedwen Clough, Bacup, Tunstead with Wolfenden | 26,217 | 757 | 685 | 721 | 555 | 485 | 520 |
| Higher and Lower Booths, Coupe, Lench, Newhallhey and Hall Carr | 17,359 | 515 | 520 | 517.5 | 402 | 436 | 419 |
| Total | 43,576 | 1272 | 1205 | 1238.5 | 957 | 921 | 939 |
| Increase in Births over Deaths in the two years...299.5 | | | | | | | |
| Births per cent. of the Population..... 2.842 | | | | | | | |
| Births per 1000 of the Population..... 28.42 | | | | | | | |
| Deaths per cent. of the Population 2.155 | | | | | | | |
| Deaths per 1,000 of the Population 21.55 | | | | | | | |

(c) To give the returns for the whole of Rossendale would be a work of difficulty, as a special search would have to be made to extract the information relating to portions of the district comprised in several adjacent townships.

The average death rate for the whole of England in 1891, was 20·2 per 1,000, and in Lancashire alone, 23·8 per 1,000. The average birth rate was respectively 31·4 and 33·3 per 1,000.



BOOK SEVENTH.



CHAPTER I.

“We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.”

BAILEY, *Festus*.

“Delightful task! to rear the tender thought,
And teach the young idea how to shoot.—THOMSON.

THE memory of our local worthies ought not to be suffered to pass unrecorded away. We have already briefly spoken of the labours and estimable qualities of some of those whose names Rossendale may well be proud to hold in remembrance—of Mitchel, Crossley, Porter, Maden, Piccop, Hirst, and others; and to these we would add a humble but not unworthy name, that of John Lord, who for a long series of years during last century was the principal schoolmaster at Bacup, and taught in the “old school.” Mr. Lord was a man of sterling character, of a genial, kind-hearted temperament, ready-witted and merry, and by precept and example exerted a powerful influence on the rising generation of the district in his day. One who knew him well, and who always had a grateful recollection of the benefits he received while a pupil under his care, states that “he had that tact as a teacher that is so essential to make the pupils love and fear him. He

could be familiar and yet austere, gentle, and yet when needful a terror to evil-doers." (a)

He had an easy facility at putting humorous rhymes together, and several pieces of local interest composed by Mr. Lord can be repeated by some of the older inhabitants. To his varied accomplishments he added that of music, and it was a pleasure in which he frequently indulged, to sit on a raised platform at the head of his school, and discourse the music of his violoncello, while his young pupils stood round and sung or chanted the arithmetical and other tables he had woven into rhyme for their profit and pleasure.

In one piece he gives a whimsical enumeration of all the notable days in the year. Beginning with Christmas, he carries us down through Candlemas to Shrovetide, seven weeks before Easter, the time when "Pancakes are in their prime;" and when "Fig-pies come thick and fast," we are duly reminded that Mid-Lent with its dainty Simnels is near at hand. This poetical summary ends with the Twenty-fifth of October, the date of Bacup Fair, which, alas! in these degenerate times, has almost passed out of memory. In another effusion he gives a version of the Calendar, and ends up as follows:—

Thirty days are in November,
Winter now comes on apace;
Thirty-one days in December,
Christmas looks us in the face.

Now spiced bread and Christmas boxes,
Cheese and cakes and tarts and ale—
All for modest lads and lasses,
Living in sweet Rossendale.

The Rev. John Butterworth, minister of the Baptist Church at Coventry for a period of about fifty-two years, was born at the village of Goodshaw Chapel on the 13th December 1727. In his earlier years he joined himself to the Methodist body; but his

(a) James Hargreaves, author of *Hirst's Life*, in his *MS. Autobiography*.

views undergoing a change, he leaned to Calvinism, and became an eminent Baptist preacher. He was the author of a *Concordance to the Holy Scriptures*, which is held in high estimation. After his death, which occurred on the 24th April, 1803, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, this work was edited by Dr. Adam Clarke, and republished under his superintendence. His son, Joseph Butterworth, married a sister-in-law of the latter-named distinguished divine, and for a lengthened period represented the boroughs of Coventry and Dover in Parliament.

His father, Henry Butterworth, blacksmith at Goodshaw, was a deacon of the Baptist Church at Cloughfold, and intimately associated with Messrs. Crossley and Mitchel in their evangelical labours. Besides his more celebrated son, John, above mentioned, Henry Butterworth had four other sons—viz., Lawrence, Henry, James, and Thomas. The three former also became Baptist ministers, being settled at Evesham, Bridgenorth, and Broomsgrove, respectively; and the latter an occasional preacher: each of the brothers displaying abilities of no ordinary kind.

James Hargreaves, the author of the "*Life of the Rev. John Hirst*," and other works, was a man sufficiently remarkable to claim a brief notice. We learn from his unpublished *Autobiography* that he was the third of five children, and was born on Sunday, November 13th, 1768, at a small farmhouse called Deanhead, two miles from Bacup on the Burnley Road. After his mother's death, which took place when he was only two years and a half old, his father married a second time, and James was sent to live with his uncle George, his father's brother, who had no family. At seven years of age he was put to work to assist at weaving woollen. In 1781 his uncle took a public-house, and finding that James would be useful to him in keeping his accounts, if he had a little education, he sent him to school daily for a few months. This, and some instruction he received in attending an evening class for a short time, was the extent of the schooling he received. His improvement in after life was due to his own assiduous perseverance. From his thirteenth to his eighteenth

year, he lived with his uncle at the public-house, but he had always a strong aversion to the business, and this in a measure proved a safeguard which prevented him from falling into the temptations by which he was continually surrounded. A circumstance occurred during his residence at this house, which exercised a considerable influence on the events of his after life. Two persons—one a Calvinist, the other an Arminian—engaged in a dispute on the doctrines of the Scriptures. The subject of our sketch became so interested in the controversy that he determined from that time to read and study the Bible, that he might also become a disputant. "But, says Mr. Hargreaves, "I record it to my shame, that I had no higher motive in searching the divine oracles. Pilate's question, 'What is truth?' never once at that period occurred to my mind." He read and studied to such purpose, that he was able to take both sides of almost every contested doctrinal question, and few were able to overcome him in debate. In his riper years he seriously embraced the views of the Calvinists. In 1791 he married. Shortly after this the Rev. Mr. Ogden, the clergyman of St. John's, Bacup, which church Mr. Hargreaves attended, began to urge him strenuously to preach; and this, after two or three abortive efforts, he began to do in the outlying districts around Bacup.

Mr. Hargreaves in his notes gives an account of his first essay at preaching, which is interesting. He had complied with the earnest wish of Mr. Ogden to preach a sermon on a week night in a cottage where services were frequently held. "I thought," says Mr. Hargreaves, "as the time approached that I could adopt a plan whereby I might avoid preaching, and excuse myself from guilt. I would go too late to the meeting, it would then be begun, and I should escape. My wife went at the time. I followed in about a quarter of an hour. On my way in the dark, and hardly knowing what I was doing, I ran my head into the flank of a horse at the door of a public-house, which I thought for the moment was a sign for me to return home. When I reached the place of meeting, I found to my chagrin that John Whitaker, Esq., of Broadclough,

was reading the scriptures to improve the time till I arrived. A temporary pulpit was made, and I was offered a book, but I said, 'Tell Mr. Ogden I *cannot* preach!' His reply was, 'Give him a bible.' I gave out a hymn—after the prayer, two friends, as I hesitated to mount the pulpit, assisted me up. I read my text, and then closed my eyes till I had got about half-way through my discourse, when, just opening them, and finding Mr. Whitaker's eyes fixen upon me, I was obliged instantly to close them again, or all my thoughts had fled. Having finished, I stepped down, opened the door, and left them to conclude the meeting as they pleased. It was a dark night in the month of November, so that I was not, as I feared, a gazing-stock on my return home. Next morning before daybreak, I took a walk through the village, feeling that I could not bear to be seen again in the daytime. Shortly afterwards Mr. Ogden and several of the society urged me to preach again, but I did not attempt it till about Christmas in 1792. In the beginning of April, 1793, Mr. Ogden was from home on the Lord's Day, and the Church was closed. I was requested to preach in a large factory newly erected, and the top room unfurnished. More than a thousand people were present. A portion of the floor gave way, but no fatal accident occurred. From this time I had my places fixed once a fortnight, and preached at Huttock End, Weir, Stack, Bankbottom, &c.; and Mr. Ogden would of his own accord give me two shillings for every sermon preached under his direction, though his income was scanty."

In 1794 Mr. Hargreaves left the church, and joined the Baptist society at Bacup, under the Rev. John Hirst. In 1795 he received a call to Bolton, which he accepted, and was ordained minister on June 29, 1796. Two years later he removed to Ogden, and in addition to his ministerial office, commenced a boarding-school, which he conducted for a long series of years with eminent success: studying unremittingly to qualify himself for the duties. With the exception of an interval of twelve months spent at Hull (in 1808-9), Mr. Hargreaves laboured at Ogden for a space of 24 years, having during that time declined many more lucrative situations. In 1822

he accepted a call to Wild Street Chapel, London, where he remained till the year 1827, when he finally settled at Waltham Abbey Cross, in Essex.

In 1816 the "Society for the Promotion of Permanent and Universal Peace" was formed. In 1818 Mr. Hargreaves became a member; and on removing to London, in 1822, he joined the Committee. When Thomas Bell, Esq., declined to act as secretary to the Society, Mr. Hargreaves was induced to accept the office. This post he held till his death. He was enthusiastic in the cause of Peace, and during the long period of his secretaryship lectured and preached—explaining, defending, and enforcing the principles of the Society.

Mr. Hargreaves was Author of the following works, which he published :—

"The Great Physician and his Method of Cure recommended in a Letter to a Friend," 1797.

"An Address to the Heads of Families," 1811.

"A Catechism for Schools," which went through several editions.

"The Life of the Rev. John Hirst, of Bacup," 1816.

"The Inseparable Connexion between Justification by Faith, and Holiness of Heart and Life," 1820.

"An Essay disproving Eternal and Unconditional Reprobation," 1821.

"A Reply to Peter Edwards, on Infant Baptism," 1821. This was written at the request of Mr. William Jones, author of "The Waldenses."

The Essay on Reprobation enlarged, 1825.

"Essays and Letters on Important Theological Subjects," published at 12s. 1833.

In addition to the above, Mr. Hargreaves published a number of addresses, sermons, and circular letters; and contributed largely to the Baptist periodical literature of the day. At his death he left several works in manuscript. He died at Waltham Abbey Cross, September 16th, 1845, aged seventy seven years.

Lawrence Heyworth was born in 1786, at Greensnook, Bacup, and was the youngest of four sons of Peter Heyworth and his wife Elizabeth, who was daughter of Lawrence Ormerod of the same

place. His father and grandfathers, paternal and maternal, were the principal woollen manufacturers at Bacup.

He received the first rudiments of learning at the old school, on whose site is now erected the Bacup Mechanics' Institution, of which latter he was President from its establishment in 1839, until his death.

At the age of thirteen he lost his father, a man highly respected, whose good sense and extensively-cultivated understanding enabled him to impress on the youthful mind of his youngest son the general outlines of, and love for the study of natural philosophy, geography, geology, astronomy, history; such politics as have in view equal privileges and the greatest good for the greatest number; the science of political economy, and commerce, which seeks not gain by others' losses, like gambling, but aims at self-enrichment by making others rich. So prepared, Lawrence became a pupil of the eminent Dr. John Fawcett, of Ewood Hall, near Halifax, and finished his education at the Grammar School of Hipperholme, conducted by the Rev. T. Hudson, also near Halifax, which he left in 1802, being then sixteen years of age, and went to assist his brothers, who had succeeded their father in the woollen business. Bacup and its vicinage had then a population of not more than fourteen or fifteen hundred; and the trade of the few manufacturers of the district was entirely with the Rochdale, Yorkshire and London houses. But, as the goods made by the firm of Peter Heyworth and Sons were for the Portuguese and Spanish markets, Lawrence, who was of an enterprising disposition, soon began to advise his brothers that they should themselves trade direct with Lisbon and Oporto, and so combine the profits of manufacturers and merchants; he also urged them to send him as their agent to those places. The brothers saw no objection to the plan, but very much doubted the probability of one so young, with (save a little Latin) no knowledge of any language but English, and scarcely any commercial experience, being able to push a trade as an entire stranger amongst foreigners. His mother, however, thought differently, "The idea

was his own, he should be allowed the chance of working it out, and she had no doubt of his success," and used the words, "I have confidence in Lawrence." In the October, therefore, of 1805, being just nineteen years of age, Lawrence Heyworth set forth from Greensnook, Bacup, to Lisbon. His route for foreign-parts lay through Birmingham and Bristol. The latter part of this portion of the journey was at night, and inside the coach was but one fellow-passenger. He and Heyworth sat at opposite corners, each with the window open all night. In the morning, the ground being covered with hoarfrost, both felt excessively cold, and each explained that he had kept his window open in the belief that his fellow-passenger wished it. The mutual politeness made them acquainted, and the acquaintance afterwards ripened into a friendship which led the way to Mr. Heyworth's commercial success. His companion was a young German of the name of Grunin, a traveller for a commercial house in Hamburgh, and himself on his way to Portugal; but he had first to visit London, and Mr. Heyworth parted from him with not even the hope of ever meeting him again. At Falmouth, however, there was a strong east wind blowing; the only packet outward-bound was about to take out the Russian ambassador and suite, and would on no condition, not even as a steerage passenger, (to which he would willingly have submitted in the prosecution of his object,) take Heyworth. There was nothing for it, therefore, but to wait the chances of wind and weather for the next packet.

During the delay, which was three weeks, and in course of which came news of Trafalgar and Lord Nelson's death, down came the German to Falmouth, accidentally put up at the same lodging with Mr. Heyworth, and they were fellow passengers to Lisbon. During the voyage, which occupied nine days, the latter worked hard at Portuguese, his knowledge of Latin was of assistance to him, and within a month he could speak with sufficient fluency for all commercial purposes. Thus his first difficulty was overcome; but at Lisbon he met with little success, and therefore resolved to make trial of Oporto. Removed thither, he again found himself

in the same lodging with Grunin, who introduced him to the leading merchants of the place, from whom he speedily received not only more orders for goods of their own make than his brothers could execute, but also such large orders for other articles, that he at once proposed to undertake a general commission business, to which his brothers agreed. This, as well as their own direct business, rapidly increased in extent, and became largely profitable. Nor was this the sum of his good fortune. Lodging also in the same house with him was a young Frenchman, who took so much interest in his progress as to introduce him to the French Consul, who in his turn made him acquainted with several of the chief Spanish houses, with whom he was enabled to do extensive business. The Consul was afterwards still more truly a friend to Mr. Heyworth, for, on the approach of the French army in 1807, he gave him such confidential information of their progress, day by day, as enabled him to remain three weeks after all the other English residents had left; and having collected and remitted every farthing of debt due to him, (which otherwise would have been confiscated by Napoleon—a matter not accomplished by any other British commercial house at the place), to leave by an American vessel the very day before the French entered.

The success of the two years in Portugal had convinced his elder brothers that Lawrence had a gift for foreign commerce, and, after some persuasion, they agreed that he and his next brother, James, should establish a commission house at Rio-de-Janerio. A circular was accordingly issued stating their intention, and so high stood the name of the old firm of Heyworth Brothers & Co. that they at once received large consignments from the manufacturers of Lancashire and Yorkshire. Lawrence sailed from Liverpool in the *Paris*, in the March of 1808, without convoy, and James in the May of 1808 from Hull, with convoy, as supercargo, with a full freight, in the *Lascelles*. So successful were the brothers in this new field, that in the following year they found it necessary to establish a Liverpool shipping and commission agency; and at the recommendation of Lawrence, his brother Ormerod resigned the

management of the manufactory to the eldest brother, and established at Liverpool the firm of Ormerod Heyworth & Co.

From Rio the firm soon extended itself, establishing branches at Bahia, Pernambuco, Buenos Ayres, Lima, Monte Video, Valparaiso, and Hamburgh. The plan adopted by the Heyworths was to raise to the position of junior partners such of their young men as showed distinguished ability, and to give them the management of branches; the several branches worked well together.

With the exception of a short visit to England, Lawrence Heyworth remained for seven years in South America. In 1812 he sailed again on his return to Rio-de-Janeiro, in the new ship *Wellwood*, which was wrecked on the third day after setting sail from Liverpool on a sand-bank off Wexford on the Irish coast; and if Mr. Heyworth (as the Captain's energies were paralysed) had not taken in charge the management, and given directions to the sailors about getting the boat afloat at the critical moment when the vessel was breaking up, the passengers and crew would have all perished. Escaping from the broken masts and yards of the sinking ship in the open boat, with a terrible sea running, which every moment threatened to swamp them, they safely landed on the coast of Ireland; Mr Heyworth without any clothing except his shirt.

In 1815 Sir James Chamberlain went out to Rio as Consul-General, with a patent from George IV., allowing him to levy a tax of half per cent. upon all English goods imported to Rio, which would have brought him some six or seven thousand pounds a-year. This imposition Mr. Heyworth at once resisted, urging its injustice towards British Merchants, and the impossibility of their being legally compelled to pay it. The resistance brought him some persecution from the Consul, but he was successful in preventing the impost; and the whole matter is remembered in Rio with scarcely less regard than Hampden's resistance of ship money is in this country. In 1816 Mr.

Heyworth returned to England. Our restrictive Tariff upon sugar, coffee, and other produce of South America, made it necessary for his firm to have an establishment at Hamburgh; and he accordingly formed in 1817 an agency under the name of Jackson, Heyworth, and Co. In 1817 Mr. Heyworth visited their commercial agents at Trieste and Leghorn, extending their transactions with those ports, and saving at the former place a valuable cargo from a failing house. In 1819 he again visited Hamburgh, sold a large stock of coffee which the partner was holding over, and realised by that single transaction a profit of no less than £20,000; delayed sale of which would, by a sudden fall in the market, which shortly took place, have resulted in a loss almost to that amount. On his return in the same year, Mr. Heyworth purchased the estate of Yew Tree, near Liverpool; and in 1820 married Elizabeth, his second cousin, daughter of Mr. Aked. From this time he took no very active part in commercial affairs. He was one of the first to perceive the practicability and importance of railways; and was one of their earliest promoters, inducing his brothers to join him in withdrawing his capital from commerce, and investing it in the Ironways. This he did, not only on the ground of profit, but of national advantage. In 1836 the firm disposed of their several establishments at home and abroad to junior partners, who still continue to prosper in the several branches of business founded by the subject of this memoir.

Mr. Heyworth first took an active part in politics upon the agitation of the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts. He was the second chairman of the Liverpool Free Trades Association; was appointed in 1839 one of the three deputies to the first great conference at Manchester, when the deputies were charged to go only for a fixed duty, to which, however, he refused to consent, and produced a powerful impression upon the meeting, which afterwards influenced the entire agitation, by his assertion of the moral importance of Free Trade, and the right of the people to untaxed bread. From that time he was one of the most zealous members of the League,—was the first to offer a subscription of

£1000, on the condition of fifty others giving a like amount ; and was on all occasions by far the largest subscriber in Liverpool.

He was also from the first a zealous supporter of the Temperance cause, opening his house to its advocates from all parts of the world ; and himself incurring no small amount of labour in its advocacy. In 1845 he refused a seat for Stafford, because it was to be gained only by bribing, and keeping open house for the electors, so encouraging corruption and drunkenness. Being a director of the Midland Railway, and a popularly known political reformer, led to his receiving an invitation to contest Derby, on the unseating on petition, after the general election in 1847, of Messrs. Strutt and Gower, and in August 1848 was returned for that Borough, with Mr. M. T. Bass.

Notwithstanding the unprincipled contest, on the part of his two opponents, at his two elections for Derby, he persisted in maintaining inviolable his resolve made at Stafford, not to owe to bribery his seat in his country's honourable House of Commons ; in which resolve he was nobly sustained by his constituents. Besides having an abhorrence of bribery, Mr. Heyworth denounced the payment of charges at elections of what are called legitimate expenses. He held these demands to be a most vicious usage, pregnant with political prostitution. He deemed it an outrage on the first principles of political economy, that an honest servant, be his engagements private or public, should be obliged, or even allowed to invest money in obtaining the onerous duty of serving in Parliament ; and that there is but a step from this legalised obligation to an act of bribery and political dereliction. Mr. Heyworth spoke but seldom in the House. His chief speech was in support of one of Mr. Cobden's motions for Financial reform, wherein he urged the importance of direct over indirect taxation, and was heard with full attention. He was in favour of Universal Suffrage, and Vote by Ballot ; and opposed to Church rates. His age exempted him from serving on Committees, but he expressed his willingness to do so ; and was in other respects a diligent Member of Parliament.

After sitting through two Parliaments, extending over a period of about nine years, as one of the representatives for the Borough of Derby, Mr. Heyworth experienced, at the age of threescore years and ten, something of the coming infirmities of advancing years, and especially that of a defective hearing. He, therefore, in 1857, relinquished his seat in the House of Commons; but in his retirement he never ceased to take an active part in promoting the movements agitated for Political, Social, Commercial, and Moral Reform. Mr. Heyworth was the author of a multitude of pamphlets, and published letters on the above and kindred subjects; and his views are enunciated at length in his work entitled, "The Origin, Mission, and Destiny of Man." He died on the 19th April, 1872, at the ripe age of 86 years.

John Crabtree, M.D., was born at Meanwood, Newchurch, September 19th, 1804. When a youth he was sent to a school at Gawsorth, taught by his uncle, the Rev. — Crabtree; and afterwards to Dronfield Academy in Derbyshire, kept by Mr. Buttermann, where he remained for the space of four years and a half. In 1822, at the age of eighteen, he was apprenticed to Mr. Wolfenden, surgeon, of Congleton, and served for a period of five years. By the assistance of his elder brother, James Crabtree, who, as a merchant in South America, (being a junior partner with the Heyworths,) had amassed a considerable fortune, he was enabled to go through a course of studies at the Colleges of Edinburgh and Dublin respectively; at the former of which, in the year 1829, he took the degree of M.D. On the 12th of June in the same year he obtained his Surgeon's diploma at the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and on the 18th of June his Apothecary's diploma at the Apothecaries' Hall. Unassuming in manners, he was yet gifted with abilities which would have graced the highest offices of his profession. An accident which befell him in his youth brought on a chest affection, which clung to him during the remainder of his life, and probably influenced him in deciding to settle in the locality of his birth. He began practice at Fearn, near Newchurch, in 1829, when twenty-five years of age, and continued to

pursue his professional duties in the district with eminent success till within a few years of his death. His delicate health towards the close of life prevented him from devoting much time to his profession. Under a seeming abruptness of manner, more assumed than real, he possessed a kind heart. He was a gentleman in the true sense of the word. His charity was large and unostentatious; and, during his latter years, he kept open surgery for the poor of the district. He died at his residence, Springfield, Newchurch, June 6th, 1867, in the sixty-third year of his age.

Robert Munn, the subject of the present sketch, was a man who at one time exercised greater influence than any other in the Rossendale valley, and whose name was widely known and esteemed in commercial circles throughout Lancashire and elsewhere. He was born at Holt Mill, Waterfoot, on February 22nd, 1800, and was of Scottish descent, his ancestors having sought refuge in England during the civil wars, in which they had in some way been involved. The family originally settled at Manchester, and it is known that the grandfather of the deceased kept a considerable farm and grazed his cattle on land which is now occupied by a portion of Deansgate and some of the other streets diverging thence towards Salford. It is certain that during last century the Munns of Manchester were fairly well to do in the world, and associated with many of the best families there and in the surrounding neighbourhood. It was probably through the friendship existing between them and the Lord family, of Broadclough, that led to the father of the deceased eventually settling in Rossendale, where he engaged in business and amassed a small competency.

In the year 1824, Mr. Munn entered into partnership with his younger brother John in the cotton trade at Old Clough Mill, Irwell Springs, near Bacup. Previous to that time the cotton manufacture in the Forest of Rossendale, as elsewhere, was in quite an embryo state; but the improved machinery then coming into use began to lend it importance, and money was being made

by those who embarked in it. The trade had gained a footing in the Rossendale district at the beginning of the century, but at that early time the spinning machinery was rude, and the old handloom was in vogue. The firm of Robert and John Munn was one of the first in Rossendale to avail themselves of the improved machinery, which eventually, in 1826, fell a sacrifice to the blind fury of the "powerloom breakers" who invaded the Rossendale valley from Chatterton to the source of the river Irwell. Nine years later, in 1833, the firm built Stacksteads Mill, at that time by far the largest cotton factory in the district. In 1838 they purchased Irwell Mill, Bacup, which had been erected in 1825, and in the year 1844 they built Edgeside Holme Mill, at Newchurch. These were each important enterprises in their day, and their proprietors ranked amongst the foremost cotton spinners and manufacturers of the time. Prior to the last mentioned date, the brothers had established the now well-known firm of John Munn and Co., of Fountain-street, Manchester, the younger brother having removed to the latter place to superintend the business there. Robert remained in Rossendale, residing at Heath Hill, which house he had erected, and to which he was through life fondly attached, and continued for many years to be the life and soul of the mills belonging to the firm within the valley.

Mr. Munn was a thorough man of business: his knowledge of the cotton manufacture in its minutest details was of the most intimate kind, and he took pride in excelling in the quality of the productions of his looms. He was strictly temperate and methodical in his habits throughout a long and active life, and vigilant and untiring in his business and in whatever else he undertook. It was due to men of his stamp that "Cotton" grew to be a power in the land, and eventually came to be spoken of as "King."

Though somewhat exacting as a master, and scarcely distinguished for liberality in the remuneration of his most trusted and valued servants, he yet gained their confidence and esteem by the appreciative manner in which, with his own intimate knowledge of business, he was prompt to recognise a similar knowledge in

others. Whilst sufficiently dogmatic in his ideas regarding machinery and methods of manufacture, he was tolerant of views that differed from his own, and was always ready and even eager to enter into discussion with his managers on such subjects. Mr. Munn also possessed the valuable quality of being able to discriminate and judge of the character of men, and, though singularly undemonstrative in his friendships, he was tenacious of the material welfare of those for whom he cared, and seldom omitted an opportunity of promoting by his word and personal influence the interests of those of whose character and abilities he had formed a favourable opinion. In this way, if he was chary at helping them with his purse, he did what is better—he enabled them to help themselves.

In the pursuits and habits of Mr. Munn there was nothing approaching to luxury, though his considerable wealth might well have justified a more liberal expenditure. His establishments both in Rossendale and in Scotland, whither he annually resorted for a few weeks to enjoy the relaxation of a little shooting on the moors, were plain and unostentatious. Personally he was noted, especially in his younger years, for his neat dapper appearance, and, loyal to his business as a cotton manufacturer, he wore a check cotton neckerchief to the last. He was an expert rider, and twenty-five years ago was to be seen almost daily on horseback in the valley riding to and from the different mills belonging to the firm.

Mr. Munn qualified as a magistrate of the Hundred of Blackburn in the year 1847, and on the death of Mr. James Whitaker, of Broadclough, he became chairman of the Rossendale bench of justices, a position he held for twenty-two years till his death. As in his business, so on the bench, he was characterised for the clearheadedness of his judgment, and his decisions were generally tempered with as much of mercy as was compatible with justice. He was a guardian in the Haslingden Union, and chairman of the Board for the space of eighteen years. He took part in most of the different educational and other movements in the district, and

furthered them with his influence, if not to any great extent with his purse.

We have remarked above that Mr. Munn at one time in his career exercised greater influence in Rossendale than any other man. We might safely have said, than any other dozen men put together. But it was not so during the last twenty years of his life. During that period his name, though still in the first rank of Lancashire capitalists and cotton spinners, had gradually ceased to be "a name to conjure by." This result was unquestionably due to the change that some time after the repeal of the Corn Laws took place in his political opinions. In the prime of his life there was no more ardent Liberal than the deceased, associated as he was with Cobden, Bright, Henry Ashworth, of Bolton, and the other leading spirits of the great Anti-Corn Law League. In those days he was a prominent figure in what was unquestionably the ablest coalition of men of business and of natural genius that ever before in the history of this or any other country associated together for a beneficent political purpose. The leaders of the League, both individually and collectively, were men who towered above their fellows, and Rossendale was proud of its representative. In clear-headedness, in business tact, and in wealth, Mr. Munn was equal to most of his associates of those days; he came behind some of them only in his power of expression, for he never was a public speaker, though he essayed to appear once or twice in that capacity. But in private conversation, and in the committee room, his vigorous words, the enthusiasm that would at times glow in his eyes and hurry his speech to his lips, were all well suited to stimulate the spirits of his compeers. It is well known also that he was a large contributor to the funds of the League. When afterwards he fell away from the political faith of his younger years, there was silent grieving in Rossendale, for it was well known to his best friends that in no true sense could he ever sympathise with the doctrines of his new allies, whilst it was seen that his influence as a man and a politician would suffer declension. The result proved the truth of these anticipations, for he eventually

became a mere nonentity in politics. Mr. Munn undoubtedly felt his altered position acutely at times, for, to salve over his political conscience, he was often in the habit of asserting, and even laboured to prove to his intimate friends, that it was not *his* opinions that had undergone a change, but those of the able men with whom he had been wont to associate. Mr. Munn was a bitter and persistent opponent of the Ten Hours Factory Bill, and he never was reconciled to the loss, as he declared it to be, of the "two golden hours" of the working day.

In his religious views he was unobtrusive and widely tolerant, and, although he attended the Established Church, in matters of faith he inclined to the opinions of Emanuel Swedenborg.

Mr. Munn married Miss Howorth, sister of Mr. John Howorth, of Bacup, and had a family of two sons and five daughters. His wife died in 1873. The melancholy death of his eldest son, James, a gentleman of considerable promise, and possessed of a genial and kindly temperament, who was drowned by the upsetting of a yacht at Lytham, affected him more severely than to a superficial observer might appear, and helped to cloud his latter years. At the time of his death, on Saturday, the 19th April, 1879, he was in his 80th year.

John Aitken was born at Kidderminster in the year 1820, but came early to Rossendale, where he spent the greater part of his life. For many years, he, with his brothers, and latterly on his own account, carried on the business of cotton spinning and manufacturing at Bacup. He was appointed a County Justice in 1862, and became an active and useful member of the bench. Mr Aitken took a prominent part in the Volunteer movement at its inception, and was eventually gazetted as Captain of the Rossendale Corps. In politics he was an ardent Liberal, and for many years was a leader of the Party in Bacup and the district. He succeeded Mr. Lawrence Heyworth as President of the Bacup Mechanics' Institution, and in that capacity delivered many interesting and thoughtful addresses. His literary and scientific attainments were

of no mean order. As a local geologist he took a foremost position, being F.G.S., and twice elected the President of the Manchester Geological Society. He was an authority on the Geology of this district, as his contribution to the present work bears witness, and his papers on his favourite subject in the different geological magazines are numerous and valuable. Mr. Aitken died at Urmston on the 29th July, 1884, in his 64th year.

Henry Cunliffe was born at High Field, Rossendale, on the 13th October, 1825. He was the author of "A Glossary of Rochdale-with-Rossendale Words and Phrases" (published after his death), and other works, amongst which is a Novel entitled "Forest and Factory: A Tale of Northern England," the scene of which is placed chiefly in Rossendale. In his preface to the first named work he has the following interesting remarks on the Rossendale and adjacent dialects: "This Glossary, although dealing with the forms current within a very small area, contains all the best words used by a greatly extended population, and upwards of fifteen hundred which do not occur in any Glossary hitherto published. My endeavour has been to give orthographical consistency, or, in other words, literary form, to the dialect—or rather dialects, for there are two—prevailing within the parish of Rochdale. . . . It appears that Rooley Moor and the ridge westward, which cross the parish and constitute the division between the two dialects, have at some early period been the barriers obstructing communication between two distinct peoples dwelling on their opposite sides and in the adjacent valleys. On the northern or Rossendale side, from Bacup to Edenfield, the 'Rossendale twang,' as the local dialect is called, prevails in its full strength; while nowhere in the valley of the Roche—on the southern side—is the *patois* which gives immortality to the writings of TIM BOBBIN more racy than it is in the cloughs and hamlets on the slopes of Rooley Moor. The mountainous belt which separates the two districts is some three miles broad, but, narrow as it is, I have resided on both sides—in each instance for a period of twenty-five years—and neces-

sarily mixed much with the common people, without perceiving the least tendency towards a fusion of the two tongues, or any nearer approach to uniformity than as education does away with the local forms of both. This, I think, indicates that Rossendale was originally peopled by an incursion from the north, which, as the student of the Glossary will perceive, introduced the many northern sounds which still exist in the vernacular. On the other hand, the valley of the Roche, up to the summit of Rooley Moor and the foot of Blackstone Edge, would appear to have been conquered by an invasion from the west."

Mr. Cunliffe was born and reared in the humblest circumstances, and earned his living from early childhood. Notwithstanding that he was self-taught, he attained to a high degree of culture, and became a fluent and versatile journalist; pursuing his literary labours, and at the same time attending to his business as a cotton mill manager. Had he been at full liberty to follow the bent of his mind, he might have taken high rank in literature. Whilst of a modest and retiring disposition, Mr. Cunliffe was a strong politician, holding advanced Liberal views, and during many years was a contributor and leader writer to various provincial newspapers. He died at Rochdale on the 21st April, 1886, in his 61st year.

William Hoyle, eminent as a Political Economist and Statistician, was born in the Rossendale Valley in 1831: he was the fourth child of his parents, who were members of the Methodist body. The family removed to Brooksbottom when he was in his fourth year, and returned to Crawshawbooth twelve years later. His parents being poor working people, he had but scant opportunity for education. After attending a dame's school, he became a half-timer in a mill at the age of eight, and when sixteen, he worked as a cotton weaver, having charge of two power looms in the factory. His thirst for knowledge and self-culture led him to rise betimes from bed in the early morning, and he usually devoted two or three hours to reading and study before going to his work

at 6 o'clock. He also attended an evening school. Thus, by unwearied assiduity, he acquired proficiency in arithmetic and mathematics, and skill in grammar and composition. By wide reading and observant habits he also attained to an intimate knowledge of the world and human character. At the age of fifteen, he became from principle a total abstainer, and, soon afterwards, a vegetarian ; and later in life he was well known as an earnest and persistent advocate of the policy of the United Kingdom Alliance.

Frugal in his habits, he saved money, and became an employer of labour. In 1851 he entered into partnership with his father as a cotton manufacturer at Crawshawbooth. In 1859 he married, and shortly afterwards removed to Tottington, where the firm built a large mill. Mr. Hoyle aspired to Parliamentary honours in 1880 by contesting the seat for the representation of Dewsbury, but was defeated.

"The keen interest he took in the Alliance agitation led him to formulate the sch me for raising a guarantee fund of £100,000. This project was explained to the annual meeting in 1871, and was received with enthusiasm. His speech at the meeting of 1876 showed the intensity of his feelings on the subject, and no one who listened to his earnest voice could doubt the depth and sincerity of his declaration : " (b)

"I would much rather leave my children penniless in a country without liquor shops, than leave them a great fortune as things are. I have made up my mind to leave no fortune to my children, if I have also to leave the liquor traffic in the country. A good share of my income shall therefore go towards this great movement. If the agitation lasts twenty years longer, my subscription will amount altogether, at this rate, to £10,000 ; but if in ten or twelve years we can remove the liquor traffic, the prospects of the country will be so bright, that we need have no apprehension

(b) Obituary Notice in the *Manchester Guardian*, March 1st, 1886.

about not leaving fortunes to our children. We shall leave them a far handsomer legacy in their sober and industrious surroundings."

Mr. Hoyle was a prolific writer in the newspapers on Temperance and Economical subjects, and, in addition, published the following works, which were widely circulated, and exerted no little influence in the country :

"Food, its Nature and Adaptability," 1864.

"An Inquiry into the long-continued Depression in the Cotton Trade," 1869.

"Our National Resources and how they are Wasted," 1871.

"The National Drink Bill." This volume consists of annual letters contributed by Mr. Hoyle to the *Times* and other newspapers.

"Crime in England and Wales in the Nineteenth Century," 1876.

In 1884 his health began to fail, owing, doubtless, to the strain put upon it by the exacting labours to which he subjected himself ; but to the last he applied himself to literary work in advocacy of the principles for which he had fought so strenuously and so long. His death took place at Southport in April, 1886. "As a speaker, Mr. Hoyle was remarkable, not for the art of the orator, but for the force and lucidity with which he marshalled facts and statistics in support of his arguments. His language, whilst devoid of common-place rhetoric, abounded in the higher qualities of directness and earnestness. There have been few men more generous and more disinterested, and his death is lamented by all who value these qualities in our public life." (c)

(c) Ibid.

CHAPTER II.

"For the harmony
And sweet accord was so good music,
That the voice to angels' most was like."
—CHAUCER, "THE FLOWER AND THE LEAF."

"Compared with these, Italian trills are tame."
—BURNS.

"An' thee, too, owd musicianer,
Aw wish lung life to thee—
A mon 'at plays a fiddle weel
Should never awse to dee!"
—WAUGH.

IN a memorandum book or diary kept by Sir Ralph Assheton, a hospitable Lancashire Baronet of the seventeenth century, and under date the year 1676, occurs the following entry:—

Xtmas. [Christmas], given the Rossendale players 10/—."

The Musicians of Rossendale Forest are not of yesterday's growth—they are a venerable race, and can count their congeners back through the centuries. Our truest of Lancashire Poets, Edwin Waugh, had them vividly before his mind's eye when he penned his droll story of "The Barrel Organ," over which may often be seen "Laughter holding both his sides." But though they may be taken at a disadvantage with the formal and new-fangled "squalling boxes" which are regulated by clockwork, and troll forth their music by the yard, as a carding-engine measures out its sliver,—place before them the glorious choruses of Handel and Haydn, and the melting melodies of Beethoven and Mendelssohn,

and the creations of these masters in the empire of Harmony find ready interpreters and strongly-appreciative minds. Neither of late years has the renown of the "Rossendale Players" diminished. This is the more gratifying, when it is remembered—as an old admirer of theirs remarked—that "they are nearly a' working lads."

In no part of England has the musical art been more cultivated, or even at the present day is music more appreciated, than in the two northern counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire. The interpretation of musical thought and expression, it is true, is now left more to the professional singer and performer, and people crowd to the concert hall to listen to the strains as rendered by the cultured exponent of musical language. In former days the practice of music was more of a subjective pursuit. The people themselves were to a greater extent than now the exponents of the art in which they delighted. Like the woven fabrics of the time, much of their music was home-made, and nearly all their power of interpreting the compositions of the great masters was of home growth and nurture; and if in those the superficial gloss of the later day was wanting, there was generally more of verve and earnestness in the singer, and of substance in the music, with a blessed freedom from adulteration.

The inhabitants of the Dean Valley have long been celebrated for their excellence as musicians, both vocal and instrumental; and it is from this fact that their appellation of "Deighn Layrocks" has arisen. (a) From records nearly two centuries old, we learn

(a) The following truthful picture is from the pen of Edwin Waugh:—"Up in the forest of Rossendale, between Derplay Moor and the wild hill called Swinshaw, there is a little lone valley, a green cup in the mountains, called 'Dean.' The inhabitants of this valley are so notable for their love of music, that they are known all through the vales of Rossendale as 'Th' Deighn Layrocks,' or 'The Larks of Dean.' In the twilight of a glorious Sunday evening, in the height of summer, I was roaming over the heathery waste of Swinshaw towards Dean, in company with a musical friend of mine, who lived in the neighbouring clough, when we saw a little crowd of people

that they were in the habit of meeting in each other's houses by turns, and practising together the compositions, sacred and secular, which our Country can boast in such rich abundance. Many pieces of their own composing bear the impress of ability far beyond mediocrity, and deserve to be more generally known. Some of these have, indeed, already gone abroad in the world, and are sung in places widely apart; being admired by those who are unable to recognise either their origin or authorship.

I have in my possession a collection, in manuscript, of no fewer than fifty sacred pieces, consisting of Psalm tunes and Chants, composed by residents in the Dean Valley, and in other parts of Rossendale, several of whom are still living. Large as this number

coming down a moorland slope far away in front of us. As they drew nearer, we found that many of them had musical instruments; and when we met, my friend recognised them as working people living in the district, and mostly well known to him. He inquired where they had been, and they told him that they had 'bin to a bit ov a sing deawn i'th' Deighn.' 'Well,' said he, 'can't we have a tune here?' 'Sure, yo con, wi' o' th' plezzur i' th' world,' replied he who acted as spokesman; and a low buzz of delighted consent ran through the rest of the company. They then ranged themselves in a circle around their conductor, and they played and sang several fine pieces of psalmody upon the heather-scented mountain top. As those solemn strains floated over the wild landscape, startling the moorfowl untimely in his nest, I could not help thinking of the hunted Covenanters of Scotland. The altogether of that scene upon the mountains, 'between the gloaming and the mirk,' made an impression upon me which I shall not easily forget. Long after we parted from them we could hear their voices, softening in sound as the distance grew, chanting on their way down the echoing glen, and the effect was wonderfully fine. This little incident on the top of Swinshaw is representative of many things which often occur in the country parts of Lancashire, showing how widespread the love of music is among the working-classes there. Even in great manufacturing towns it is very common, when passing cotton-mills at work, to hear some fine psalm tune streaming in chorus from female voices, and mingling with the spoom of thousands of spindles. The 'Larks of Dean,' like the rest of the Lancashire operatives, must have suffered in this melancholy time: but I hope that the humble musicians of our country will never have occasion to hang their harps upon the willows."—*Home Life of the Lancashire Factory Folk during the Cotton Famine*, c 23.

is, I have reason to believe that it is but a fractional part of what might be collected in the locality. Some of the names given to the pieces are characteristic of the dry humour of the authors—a quality which is largely possessed by many of the old inhabitants of the Forest. Among the list we find “Happy Simeon,” “Little Amen,” “Bocking Warp,” “Strong Samson,” “Old Methuselah,” and “Spanking Rodger.” (b)

Numerous are the stories that are told of the modes in which the enthusiasm of the “Layrocks” is or was displayed in their pursuit of the musical art. In hand-loom days, when every man’s house was his workshop, it was usual for the “Deighners” to repair to each other’s houses alternately, after the Sunday’s service at the chapel, and continue their practice of music far into the small hours of the Monday morning; and, on rising, after a brief repose, the Monday was spent in a similar manner. Very often the

(b) One piece, of a secular character—the words and music of which are by the same hand—always affords amusement. It is sung by four voices, and consists of a like number of verses, one being taken by each singer at one and the same time. It professes to describe and ridicule the abortive efforts of a local musical genius, who is endeavouring to initiate into the mysteries of the divine art a class of unimpressionable pupils, and is usually given with all the tumultuous energy of which the Singers are capable. The words, as follows, without pretensions to any special merit, are interesting as a Local curiosity:—

“OLD SIMON:

“A CATCH FOR FOUR VOICES.

“Simon, I have heard thy singers,
Squeaking, squalling,
Shouting, bawling,
Ranting, roaring—what a din!
Enough to make one’s blood run thin!

“I compare thy snaffing choir
To tumult at a house on fire;
To hunters in full chase,
Or riots in a market-place;
Or howling dogs, or angry cats,
Or scolding wives, or brawling brats.

Tuesday also was devoted to the like purpose. But sound, however sweet, is but sorry food for empty stomachs, and, consequently, during the remaining days of the week, the loom had to be plied with unremitting vigour to supply the ever-recurring wants of the household.

It is related of two of the "Layrocks"—Father and Son—that they had long been busy trying to master a difficult piece of music, one with the violin, the other with the violoncello, but were still unable to execute certain of the more intricate movements to their satisfaction. They had put their instruments aside for the night, and had retired to rest. After his "first sleep," the younger enthusiast, in ruminating over the performance of the evening, thought that if he might only rise and attempt the piece *then*, he should be able to manage it. Creeping from under the bed-clothes, he awoke his father, who also arose; and soon the two in their shirts might have been seen, through the unscreened window, flourishing their bows at an hour when ordinary mortals are laid unconscious in the arms of Somnus. The lonely traveller, had there been one at that untimely hour, would, surely, like Tam o' Shanter, as he passed "By Alloway's auld haunted kirk," have

"Fie upon their dismal din!
 When I did hear it,
 I do declare it,
 My hair it stood upright,
 I trembled with affright,
 With fear my knees did smite!
 Such snaffling, snarling,
 Stamping, staring,
 Sure I thought the fools would fight.

"Sol, sol, sol,
 Fa, fa, fa,
 Well done, lads!
 Stamp, stamp, stamp!
 Mind your time!
 Fa, sol, sol.
 Well done, old Syh!"

felt his hair rising on end at the sight of the two ghostly individuals scraping music at the dead of night, and in such unwonted attire.

The impression produced upon my mind by a visit paid some years ago, in the month of June, to the oldest chapel at Lumb, on the occasion of the anniversary services there, will not easily be effaced from my memory. It was quite a "field day" among the "Deighn Layrocks," and they mustered in strength, as though bent on maintaining the reputation they had acquired for their musical displays. The Singers' Gallery was thronged to excess. In the fore-front was a dazzling row of buxom girls, with ruddy faces and sparkling eyes, the picture of that rosy health which the fresh and bracing air of the hill-side imparts; and all were decked out in bonnets newly trimmed with artificial flowers and ribbons of the brightest hue, in every variety of colour and arrangement. Neither in their other apparel was there any lack of neatness, many of the girls displaying superior taste, and dressing in a manner approaching to elegance. For weeks before the anniversary Sundays of the various places of worship throughout Rossendale, those who "ply the needle and thread" have a busy time of it; for it is the custom of the single lasses to appear at church or chapel on those occasions in the finery which has to serve the purpose of dazzling the eyes, and captivating the hearts, of the rural swains during the intervening twelve months. But this is a digression. Behind the girls were the males of every age, from the youthful tyro to the hoary and spectacled patriarchs of the valley; and in the rear, with scarcely room to exert their powers, were the Instrumentalists, amongst whom the Fiddlers, large and small, predominated. The mellow flute and the clarionet had their representatives; and dotted here and there might be seen a brass instrument, reflecting the bright sunshine that gleamed through the windows of the humble edifice. (c)

(c) It may indicate a want of taste on my part, but I confess to having experienced a pang of regret on learning that the old-fashioned instruments at Lumb Chapel had been supplanted by the more fashionable, but also more formal, Organ—

"Old times are changed, old manners gone!"

I entered just as the Musicians were completing the tuning of their instruments, and found the chapel crowded in every part. Soon the minister ascended the pulpit, and opened the service by giving out the noble Hymn of Dr. Watts :—

“Come let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.”

The tune selected by the Leader of the choir was “Nativity,” and with a precision which long practice had rendered easy, and which Charles Hallé would have admired had he been there to listen, the whole body of singers and instrumentalists struck briskly off into the fine old lilting measure; the deep bass of the violoncellos and manly voices, alternating with the treble and alto of the lesser instruments, and the sweet, clear, silver tones of the females, in the frequent repetition of the lines. With reverent voice the minister then perused the Sacred Volume; his lucid comments enforcing the truths of Holy Writ, and with marvellous power bringing home the Bible narrative to the experiences of our common humanity. Not less impressive and effectual was his earnest prayer, spoken in that homely, vigorous Saxon, which, needing no interpreter, is all-powerful to touch the heart. The hymn which followed the prayer was one familiar to many of my readers :—

“God of the seas, thy thund’ring voice
Makes all the raging waves rejoice;
And one soft word—’tis Thy command—
Can sink them silent in the sand.”

And this being sung to “Glad Tidings,” the effect which would be produced by the noble lines of the poet, and the weird, exultant music, upon the unsophisticated mind, may be more easily imagined than described.

“Compared with this, how poor Religion’s pride
In all the pomp of method and of art,
When men display to congregations wide
Devotion’s every grace, except the heart !”

But the great treat of the afternoon was when, the sermon being concluded, the "Hallelujah Chorus" was given by the choir. The fervent, enthusiastic countenances of the men, many of whom were awkward and even clownish in their dress and appearance, contrasting finely with the less serious, but not less earnest and expressive faces of the female portion of the rural choir, as the grand Anthem, "within no walls confined," rose heavenward to the great Eternal, who is the subject and burden of its strain. Neither was the singing limited to the choir—the majority of the congregation were familiar with the song, and loud hallelujahs filled the house of God.

What an unspeakable legacy those glorious musical productions are to mankind, for all time ; and how consoling to reflect that, however humble our station in life, and however coarse our fare and homely our attire, we can enter into their spirit, and enjoy and appreciate their beauties equally with the rich and noble of the land.



CHAPTER III.

"Some call me witch,
And being ignorant of myself, they go
About to teach me how to be one : urging
That my bad tongue—by their bad usage made so,
Forespeaks their cattle, doth bewitch their corn,
Themselves, their servants, and their babes at nurse.
This they enforce upon me ; and in part
Make me to credit it. . . .

'Tis all one
To be a witch as to be counted one."

—THE WITCH OF EDMONTON.

IN the present chapter I have jotted down a few fragmentary items of information, traditionary, and authenticated.

Rossendale has on occasions been favoured with the visits of several remarkable men. The Rev. John Wesley, as we have already seen, (a) visited this district four times at least, and from the hill-sides preached to the assembled population. On the occasion of his visit on July 14th, 1761, he opened the first Methodist Chapel in the Forest.

The renowned Whitefield also, in the course of his peregrinations, passed through Rossendale more than once. In a letter addressed to Lady Huntingdon, and dated Leeds, October 30, 1749, he says,—“I have preached to many thousands at Rosindale, Aywood, and Halifax.” (b)

Tradition says that on one occasion he preached from the old “Riding Steps” which formerly stood near to the “George and

(a) See *ante*, p. 217.

(b) Whitefield's Letters, Vol. ii. p. 288.

Dragon," Bacup, to a vast congregation, which the fame of his eloquence had attracted from far and near. In the year 1750 he also preached in the district, and a letter (c) to a friend, breathing the earnest and devoted spirit of the man, was indited from Rossendale at this time.

Mr. Christopher Hopper, famous as a preacher in the early days of Methodism, officiated, on one occasion, in the original Methodist Chapel in Lane-Head-Lane, Bacup; and in his diary, under date January 23, 1780, he records,—“I met with a perfect hurricane at Bacup. I was shut up with mountains of snow with a poor old woman till the 27th, with little fire and small provisions. The same day I set out with James Dawson and John Earnshaw over the hills to Colne.”

The eccentric William Gadsby occasionally visited Rossendale. Once, when preaching at Goodshaw, a company of the Dean “Layrocks” had crossed over the hill to assist the local choir, and fiddling and trumpeting were the order of the day. At the conclusion of the proceedings, Mr. Gadsby, who was always an advocate of extreme simplicity in the services, in his usual blunt manner expressed his disapproval of the musical performances, remarking that the presence of so many instruments of music savoured more of the playhouse than the house of God; and expressed a hope that if ever he came amongst them again, the fiddles and trombones might be dispensed with.

Turning from preaching to politics, it may be noted that Fergus O'Connor, the celebrated leader of the Chartists, paid a visit to Bacup when in the heyday of his popularity. Rossendale, however, never contributed many supporters to the cause of Chartism, though there were a few who enthusiastically embraced the views, and laboured to propagate the opinions, of this political section. It would appear that Fergus was not very well received when he came to Bacup, for the only room which could be procured for him in which to deliver an address was the old kiln, used for

(c) No. 842 in his published correspondence.

smelting malt, (*d*) situated in Rochdale Road, and now occupied as a cartwright's shop. Here he broached his "Land Scheme," and inaugurated a Branch Society, with what results we all know. (*e*)

In the diary of the late Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, published in his life by his son, (1864, p. 123,) the following entry occurs:—

"July 22nd, 1814. Rode with Mr. Mather to Todmorden in the centre of the beautiful vale of that name. On our way, called on Mr. Maden, near Bacup, where I saw and conversed with Mary Harrison, aged 104. She had been in the family ever since she was twelve years old, and is in full possession of every faculty except that of hearing."

Mary Harrison, whose remains are interred in the graveyard of Ebenezer Baptist Chapel, Bacup, lived to the remarkable age of 108 years. The date of her death is 21st December, 1818. She was born at Chatham, in Cliviger Dean. I have been at some pains to find the register of her birth, but have not succeeded. The register at Holmes Chapel, near to her place of birth, extends no farther back than the year 1742. Her age, however, is well authenticated. She entered the family of the late James Maden, Esq., of Greens, Bacup, in her thirteenth year—lived in it some time—left—and returned again, remaining in it until the day of her death. She nursed three generations of the family in succession:

(*d*) Hence *Smelt*, the present name of the locality.

(*e*) With much to condemn and more to deplore, there was also a good deal to admire in the character of O'Connor. The "Land Scheme" was his fatal mistake; its failure was inevitable; the tendency of the small allotment system could only be to reduce our operatives to the unenviable condition of Irish peasant farmers. With all his faults, however, O'Connor was a friend of the working man, and laboured to the best of his judgment to promote his welfare, and improve his condition. He could not be considered a statesman in any sense of the term; though there are statesmen who have committed graver mistakes than those which can be laid to his charge. For Fergus O'Connor's heart, if not for his head, there are those who entertain, and with ample reason, the profoundest respect, and this, notwithstanding years of obloquy and indiscriminating abuse.

the youngest child after she was 102 years old, and was able to employ herself in light work till a short time before her last illness. Her complaint was natural decay ; and she retained most of her faculties and memory to the last.

Sharneyford Mill is the highest in England, being about 1250 feet above the level of the sea. The Rossendale man's answer, which Tim Bobbin so much admired, had reference to the watershed of which Sharneyford forms part :—" I am always well pleased when I think at the Rossendale man's answer, who, being asked where he wunned, said, '*I wun at th' Riggin o' th' Woard—at th' Riggin o' th' Woard—for th' Wetur o' th' tone Yeeosing faws into th' Yeeost, on th' tother into th' West Seco.*'" (f)

The site of what we now term Bacup has undergone quite a transformation within the memory of "the oldest inhabitant." The cluster of houses which at one time composed the village of Bacup, used to be called "Giddy Meadow" by the old people of last century. The reason of the name I have not been able to ascertain. Not very long ago the land all down on each side of Greave Water was quite a swamp that swung under the feet. The whole of what is now called Tong, in Bacup, used to have quite a park-like appearance, being thickly studded with trees, on which the crows annually built their nests, as they do at Broadclough at the present day. The slope betwixt Tong Lane and Todmorden Road was a series of gardens in a high state of cultivation. So also was the site of the "Club Houses" and St. James' Street.

The early Baptists used to immerse in the river Irwell, at Lumb Head. A story is related of an irreverent wag who placed a

(f) This occurs in a letter from Collier (Tim Bobbin) to Robert Whitaker, whose brother, Henry, was also a friend and correspondent of the celebrated Lancashire humourist. See Westall's ed. of Tim Bobbin, 1819, p 297. "The two Whitakers were brothers from Rossendale ; one of whom, Henry, was a schoolmaster at Manchester, and the other, Robert, a land surveyor and steward to Colonel Townley." (Canon Raines.) "Collier occasionally assisted the latter, and both were his constant friends." *The South Lancashire Dialect*, by Thomas Heywood, F.S.A. Chetham Miscellanies, vol. III p. 47.

prickly thorn at the bottom of the pool when old "Abb o'th Yate," was baptized. On complaining of the injuries he had sustained in the process of immersion, Abb was consoled by being assured that it must have been his sins that were pricking him.

Bull-baiting was formerly a common sport in Rossendale. The Baiting ground at Bacup was on "Hammerton Green,"^(g) as it was called—the site of the present Corn Mill yard, and near to a low building known as the "Witching hoile." A stake was fixed in the centre of the ground, to which the Bull was tethered by a rope, when its canine tormentors were let loose upon it, amidst the yelling and cursing of a brutalised mob. At Boothfold, until within recent years, the stake with a ring attached stood near to the "Pack Horse."

To show that the practice of Bull-baiting was at one time familiar to the inhabitants, a little circumstance may be mentioned. A very old Rossendale man, recently deceased, one day attended a Camp Meeting held in a field at Sharneyford. An acquaintance afterwards inquired if he had got to the meeting in time. "Yea," was the reply, "I just geet theer as they were teein' t' bull to th' stake," meaning, of course, that the preacher was just about opening the services.

But Rossendale was by no means singular in its relish for this degrading practice. In Manchester, in former times, "amongst the heaviest fines, or, as they were called, 'amercements,' on the butchers, were those for selling bull-beef, the bull not having been previously baited to make the flesh tender enough for human food."^(h) A strange commentary this on the morals and civilisation of our forefathers.

Tradition says that the narrow defile or gorge, called the "Thrutch," through which the river Irwell, the turnpike road, and

^(g) John Hammerton, probably the owner of the Green in question, was one of the Trustees of the "Old School House," Bacup, in 1773.

^(h) Introduction to the Manchester Court Leet Records published by the *Clutton Society*, and edited by John Harland, F.S.A. p. 2.

the railway now run in close juxtaposition, was at one time so contracted at its summit, that it might have been cleared at a leap. A bold hunter of the name of Foster, it is said, actually performed the feat, and the place, until recently, was known as "Foster's Leap."

At the foot of the hill Coupe Law, is a place named "Th' Arks o' Dearden," where in former times, it is said, horse races were run. A similar race ground is reported to have existed at Pike Law, near to the base of Cribden.

At one corner of the field adjoining Stackstead's Mill is a large irregularly-shaped mound, made up of earth, clay, and coarse gravel. The railway train, on its way to and from Bacup, passes over a portion of this mound. The material of which it is composed has probably been washed down out of Hell Clough, which is immediately opposite, and deposited at this place, by some operation of Nature, at a remote period of time. But there is a legend connected with it, the recital of which must not be omitted here. It is said that before the river Irwell had scooped out its present channel through the Thrutch Glen, the whole of the valley extending thence up to Bacup foot, was covered by a vast sheet of water—a great Lake, embanked by the surrounding hills. In the deep gorge, in Brandwood, which bears the name of "Hell Clough," it is further said, his Satanic Majesty had his country seat; and was accustomed to perform his ablutions in the Lake in question. One day the water, swollen by heavy rains, and lashed into fury by the wind, overflowed its banks at the Thrutch, ploughing out a passage through the rock and shale which had hitherto barred its progress. His Majesty of the cloven foot, who stood upon the edge of the Lake enjoying the storm himself had raised, began to perceive the sudden withdrawal of the water from his feet. Divining the cause, he slipped on a large apron, and hastily filling it with soil and gravel, made with all speed to repair the breach. But, just as he reached the place where the mound above described is situated, his apron strings

broke; and the mass of rubbish which he carried fell to the ground, where it has lain to this hour.

It is some such tradition of the close proximity of the Devil to the district which has given rise to the following saying, quoted by Bamford : (i)—“ There’s a fine leet i’ th’ welkin, as th’ witch o’ Brandwood sed when th’ Devil wur ridin’ o’er Rossenda.”

The belief in Witchcraft, and in the existence of evil spirits, was at one time very prevalent amongst the lower classes in the district. Remnants of such superstitions still exist. At the present day it is not uncommon to find a horeshoe nailed behind the outer door, or on the lintel over the entrance, intended to scare the witch from the dwelling, or prevent her devilish cantrips from taking effect upon the inmates. The inquisitive eye may also detect over the stalls in the shippens of some of the old farm-houses, the “ lucky-stone,” pendant by a thread from a nail in the ceiling. This was thought to be an infallible charm to protect the cattle from being “ witched,” and to prevent the cream from breaking in the churn.

The doings of the notorious “ Tong Boggart ” are familiar to almost every one in Bacup, and few but have heard rehearsed the story of his unearthly howlings and knockings that kept the neighbourhood in a ferment of terror for weeks together.

The “ Goodshaw Witch ” was a noteworthy personage in her day ; but even against her black art there was an all-sufficient antidote. The superstitious people of the neighbourhood would place a piece of oaten cake underneath their pillow at night on retiring to rest ; and this, if eaten in the morning when they awoke, *but before opening the eyes*, was a safeguard to shield them during the day from the unholy influences of the withered beldam ; failing to take this precaution, the worst mischiefs were liable to befall them. An unfortunate girl, who had neglected the necessary preservative, was one morning sent by her mother to the old woman to borrow a handful of salt. The reputed witch, not over

(i) Life of a Radical, chap. vi.

pleased, turned or twisted her eyes upon the girl, who began to squint from that moment, and was never afterwards able to look straight before her.

In Harland and Wilkinson's "Lancashire Folk-Lore," (pp. 208-9,) the following account is given of the killing of a Rossendale Witch or Wizard :—"Some years ago I formed the acquaintance of an elderly gentleman who had retired from business after amassing an ample fortune by the manufacture of cotton. He was possessed of a considerable amount of general information—had studied the world by which he was surrounded—and was a leading member of the Wesleyan connexion. The faith element, however, predominated amongst his religious principles, and hence both he and his family were firm believers in witchcraft. On one occasion, according to my informant, both he and the neighbouring farmers suffered much from loss of cattle, and from the unproductiveness of their sheep. The cream was *bynged* [soured] in the churn, and would bring forth no butter. Their cows died mad in the shippons, and no farrier could be found who was able to fix upon the diseases which afflicted them. Horses were bewitched out of their stables through the loopholes, after the doors had been safely locked, and were frequently found strayed to a considerable distance, when they ought to have been safe in their stalls. Lucky-stones had lost their virtues; horse-shoes nailed behind the doors were of little use; and sickles hung across the beams had no effect in averting the malevolence of the evil-doer. At length suspicion rested upon an old man, a noted astrologer and fortune-teller, who resided near New Church, in Rossendale, and it was determined to put an end both to their ill-fortune and his career, by performing the requisite ceremonials for 'killing a witch.' It was a cold November evening when the process commenced. A thick fog covered the valleys, and the wild winds whistled across the dreary moors. The farmers, however, were not deterred. They met at the house of one of their number, whose cattle were then supposed to be under the influence of the wizard; and having procured a live cock-chicken, they stuck him full of pins and burnt

him alive, whilst repeating some magical incantation. A cake was also made of oatmeal, mixed with the urine of those bewitched, and, after having been marked with the name of the person suspected, was then burnt in a similar manner. . . . The wind suddenly rose to a tempest, and threatened the destruction of the house. Dreadful moanings, as of some one in intense agony, were heard without, whilst a sense of horror seized upon all within. At the moment when the storm was at the wildest, the wizard knocked at the door, and in piteous tones desired admittance. They had previously been warned by the 'wise man' whom they had consulted that such would be the case, and had been charged not to yield to their feelings of humanity by allowing him to enter. Had they done so, he would have regained all his influence, for the virtue of the spell would have been dissolved. Again and again did he implore them to open the door, and pleaded the bitterness of the wintry blast, but no one answered from within. They were deaf to all his entreaties, and at last the wizard wended his way across the moors as best he could. The spell, therefore, was enabled to have its full effect, and within a week the Rossendale wizard was locked in the cold embrace of death."

Another formidable Witch is said to have practised her black art in Rossendale fifty or sixty years ago. A person who had suffered from her evil influences applied for advice under the circumstances to a famous Witch doctor and Fortune-teller who resided at Wardle. The doctor gave him a small packet containing some unknown mixture, with instructions to hold it over the fire in a glazed earthenware pot, about the hour of midnight. He cautioned him, however, to beware of allowing it to drop into the fire, as, if he did so, it would assuredly burn the Witch to death. At the time named, having first carefully bolted the door before performing the spell, he took the mixture and held it as directed. Very soon an unearthly groan was heard outside, as if proceeding from some one in great distress. This so terrified the operator that he allowed the dish and its contents to drop from his

hand into the fire, when the whole exploded with a report which shook the adjoining cottages, and awakened the inmates. Next morning it was reported that the reputed Witch was dead, having been found lying underneath the bed in her own house, with her right arm burnt almost to a cinder!

A number of the youths of the village of Crawshawbooth were amusing themselves at football on a Sunday afternoon in the field lying between "Pinner Lodge" and Sunnyside House. A gentlemanly personage, dressed in black, approached and stood looking at them for some time, apparently interested in the game. The ball at length rolled to his feet, and, unable to resist the temptation, he took it in his hand, and gave it a kick that sent it spinning into the air; but instead of the ball returning to *terra firma*, it continued to rise until it vanished from the sight of the gaping rustics. Turning to look at the stranger who had performed such a marvellous feat, they espied what they had not observed before—the cloven foot and barbed tail (just visible from underneath the coat) of his Satanic Majesty. The effect of this unexpected discovery on the onlookers may be imagined but not described. Had the wall of the field been twelve feet high instead of four, it could not have prevented their exit. As for the cause of their sudden dispersion, he vanished in a blaze of fire, and the smell of the brimstone fumes produced by his disappearance was felt in the village for many weeks afterwards.

A correspondent in a local newspaper relates the same story with a slight variation. One of the players thinking he would give the gentleman the chance of a knock, turned his foot towards him and kicked the ball. The latter availed himself of the opportunity, and gave the ball a tremendous kick, which struck it into a blue blaze! The same correspondent (under the signature of Oliver Dingle) states that "he has often heard an old Crawshawboothian relate a story of a bewitched cow, the owner of which, seeing that something was wrong with it, but not being able to tell what, called a number of his friends and neighbours together to look at it, the person who related the story being one of these. The cow was turned out into

the fold, and a man stood before the shippon door to prevent it going in again ; but it walked up to what the narrator called a loophole in the barn, and slipped through like a cat ! The hole was so small that not one of the lookers-on could have put his head through it, and the barn referred to is the one near Hudson Mill. The narrator said, 'I saw it with my own eyes, and therefore could not be deceived.'

In the prose writings of Edwin Waugh, the Lancashire poet, are to be found many curious and interesting references to Rossendale. For example, in his sketch of "Rochdale to Top of Blackstone Edge," he remarks, "When visiting relations of mine near Buckley, I met with a story relating to one of the Buckleys of old, who was a dread to the country-side ; how he pursued a Rossendale rider who had crossed the moors from the Forest, to recover a stolen horse from the stables of Buckley Hall by night, and how this Buckley of Buckley overtook and shot him at a lonely place called Th' Hillock, between Buckley and Rooley Moor." Waugh refers, with some variations, to the same legend in his sketch on "Dulesgate." In his story of "Dan o' Tootlers," the old fiddler, one of his best productions, Waugh remarks that the "fiddler had been specially invited, quite as much in the character of a guest as of an itinerant musician, to enliven the rustic gathering which thronged the old house at the Nine Oaks Farm at the annual churn supper, as the feast of the hay-harvest is called in South Lancashire. The churn supper at Nine Oaks was famous all over the Forest of Rossendale, no less on account of the guests and the bounty of the cheer, than on account of the presence of a minstrel so well known and so universally welcomed as Dan o' Tootlers was in those days." There are two curious references to Rossendale places and character in the sketch, "Owd Cronies." "Robin at th' Crawshaw Booth has a lad as can creep through a cat hole !" and again, "Here, come ; if we're o' gooin' to talk at once, like Rossenda' churchwardens, I'll wait a bit till there's a better chance." In the "Dead Man's Dinner," there is a description of Newchurch with its old church

and surroundings, of which it is a faithful and beautiful picture. From a considerable acquaintance with Edwin Waugh's writings, I have observed that in his prose sketches, wherever his references to Rossendale occur, they are in his choicest pieces. The very mention of the name seems to open up within his mind a fine vein of poetic inspiration which is reflected on the page. For example, in "Dulesgate," and in "The Old Fiddler," to which I have already referred, in his "Letters written during the Cotton Famine," where he speaks of the "Deighn Layrocks," in the "Barrel Organ," and in others.



BOOK EIGHTH.



CHAPTER I.

"The King he is great on his throne,
The Knight at his Lady's knee,
The Bishop exults in his lawn,
But the Tradesman's the metal for me."

"Work apace, apace, apace, apace,
Honest Labour bears a lovely face."—DECKER.

"He strains the warp
Along the garden walk, or highway side,
Smoothing each thread."—DYER. — *The Fleece*.

ROSSENDALE has had two distinct periods in its history which we are able to trace. First, its existence as a Forest, harbouring "nothing else but deer and other savage and wild beasts;" and, second, its industrial condition, agricultural and manufacturing. The earlier time we have endeavoured to realize and describe from the meagre records of the past which have been preserved; the second, also, as regards the agricultural or pastoral developments of the district, we have noted. Its growth in manufactures and trade will now engage our attention. The first was a period of scanty population; the other is marked by a growing number of inhabitants. The poetry and romance of the first have gradually given place to the matter-of-fact circumstances which exist to-day, and which have effaced most of the traces of its earlier condition. The

trees and under-growth have disappeared from the face of the country. True, the hills remain as of yore, which is something to rejoice at, and the Irwell and its tributaries still meander down the valleys, though sadly wanting in the pellucid brightness that characterized them in the past. The change is one that has overtaken other places besides Rossendale, and it seems as though it were an inevitable result of the presence of a human population, where the numbers are considerable. Let it be hoped that the time will come when it will be possible to reconcile the now opposing conditions, or at least to render them less marked and objectionable. The dream is one which is worth cherishing, and it may perhaps be turned into a reality when a sincere and united effort is made for its accomplishment.

The immediate result of the fulfilment of the decree of Henry VII., for the disforesting of the Forest of Rossendale, was to cause an influx of population into the district, who were afterwards to introduce those manufacturing and industrial pursuits which have since proved an inexhaustible fountain of enrichment, such as the agricultural improvement of its soil is powerless to supply. Ever since that period Rossendale has been growing in importance, by slow gradations at first, sometimes so as scarcely to be perceived, but afterwards with rapid and surprising strides. The advances which have been made during the present century are remarkable. We are each accustomed to listen to the stories of the Patriarchs of the villages—those who have passed a long life-time in the district—how that things are strangely altered since the time when they knew every face in their different localities, and could salute each inhabitant as a familiar acquaintance.

During the reign of Henry VII., we have seen that the population of Rossendale numbered only about twenty souls, whose occupation was that of keeping the Deer. After the Forest was apportioned out into vaccaries or booths, and granted to certain of the inhabitants by the king's commission, the population began to increase, and agricultural pursuits constituted their chief daily employment.

It is interesting to note our gradual emergence from the ideas and methods of restriction which in times past prevailed, and kept the trade of the country—the most important trade or business, that of agriculture—bound and fettered within confined and narrow limits. I do not now refer to the doctrine of prohibition as applied to the keeping out the produce of other countries from our own, but to the interference which at one time existed with internal freedom of trade.

Take, for example, the grinding of corn. The practice was general, in past times, throughout the country, of compelling the grinding of corn to be done at certain favoured mills in the different districts; and it was even a punishable offence to evade this custom by carrying, or attempting to carry, the corn grown in the district, or that purchased outside the district, to be ground at other than the special mills named.

The Corn Mills in Rossendale, anciently called the “*Soke Mills*,” were situated in Wolfenden Booth, Newchurch, and Oakenhead Wood Booth, Rawtenstall. They existed here from a comparatively early period. It is probable that they were built in the sixteenth century. They were originally the property of the Sovereign, who was then lord of the manor, and were erected for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Forest; who, in return for the accommodation thus provided, were compelled to bring to those mills to be ground all their Corn grown in the Forest, and also all Malt, whether grown in the Forest or out of it, used or spent ground, in their respective houses; for which grinding they were to pay mulcture at the rate of a thirtieth part, except for the grinding of bought Shelling or Groats grown out of the Forest;—for these they were only to pay half-mulcture or one in sixty. The inhabitants of Musbury, and Yate and Pickup Bank, owing to their distance from the mills, were not bound by the above regulations.

This rate of mulcture was fixed by a decree of the Duchy Court, dated May 1638, on consideration of a certificate returned into the Court by Seville Radcliffe and John Starkie, Esquires, who,

under the direction of the Chancellor of the Duchy, the Right Hon. Edward Lord Newburgh, were appointed to inquire into certain differences which had arisen between Edward Rawstorne, Esq., his Majesty's Copyhold tenant, and some inhabitants of the Forest, respecting the same. This decree was afterwards confirmed by the same Court in the year 1785, on a trial between the owners of the mills and certain of the inhabitants who had evaded the mulcture by having their grain ground elsewhere.

I am by no means certain that the decree of 1638 can not be legally enforced, but to attempt it in these days would simply be absurd. Imagine being compelled to have all the yarn produce woven into cloth in the district, or all our cowhides converted into leather and manufactured into shoes in the district. The cases are parallel—it is only the times and the ideas that are changed.

No doubt in earlier days, when travelling and conveyance were difficult, the establishment of the soke mills was a boon to the inhabitants, and therefore there was some show of justification for enforcing the support of the mills so established, and yet it seems strange to us, in these days of free and unrestricted trade, that a person, if he cared to incur the cost of transit of his corn, should not in past times, as well as now, have had the right of grinding it, or of having it ground, wherever he chose.

I have in my possession copies both of the original decree of 1638 and the confirmatory decree of 1785. They are interesting documents, but they need not be given at length. I may mention that the millers were under obligation to grind the corn within twenty-four hours after it was brought to them, otherwise the owner had liberty to take it elsewhere to be ground. The payment for grinding was at the rate of a thirtieth part for corn grown in the Forest, and the sixtieth part for corn grown "forth of" or out of it. Coin was scarce in those days, and therefore payment was made in kind.

As late as the year 1859, a placard was extensively posted throughout Rossendale, reciting the old decree of 1638 relating to the

soke mills, as confirmed by the decree of the Duchy Court in 1785, and giving notice to all the inhabitants of the Forest, that it was the firm determination of John Brooks, Esq., of Sunnyside, and S. A. Lord, Esq., of Newchurch, the then owners of the mills, to rigorously enforce the ancient custom, and offering a reward of five pounds to any person giving such evidence as would be considered sufficient proof to ground an action, or other legal proceedings against defaulters. The explanation of this is, that in the year named (1859), the late William Sutcliffe, being in treaty for the lease or purchase of the mills from the then owners, questioned whether any actual and assessable value attached to the ancient exclusive rights; and consequently he declined to take into account any such supposititious value unless its tangibility were proved. It was therefore with the object of affording proof of such alleged value that the placard was issued. It is needless to add that the result was to corroborate the view entertained by Mr. Sutcliffe as to the want of value in the claim.

The corn mill at Bacup was built in 1826, by Hoyle and Atkinson, on a portion of a close of land called "Stansfield Meadow;" but this firm having failed before commencing to work the mill, it was assigned, in 1827, to Peel (engineer), Bates (millwright), and Holt (builder). A further transfer of the property was made in 1828 to Richard Heyworth and Edmund Whitaker, who in turn sold it to William Thompson, John Hill, and William Sutcliffe, in the year 1831. This latter firm began to work it as a corn mill, under the name of James Thompson and Son. Hill died shortly afterwards, and Thompson, in 1859, sold his share to Sutcliffe, who then became the sole owner. In 1863 the name of the firm was altered to William Sutcliffe and Son. For a consideration of £30 per annum, paid to S. A. Lord, the owner of Boothfold mill, the mill at Bacup takes the mulcture of the district down to Stacksteads. Rawtenstall mill was rebuilt in 1857, by John Brooks, Esq., of Crawshaw Hall; and is also worked by the Messrs. Sutcliffe. Another extensive corn mill, also at Rawtenstall, was built in 1886 by the latter firm.

In the latter years of the reign of Henry VIII. the Woollen Manufacture was introduced into the district, and during a period of about three hundred years this formed the staple trade of Rossendale. The clothing of the inhabitants in earlier times was chiefly of "self" material; that is, it was of home manufacture—not bought in the finished piece. In lieu of oil, which was difficult and expensive to procure, the wool was greased with butter raised from the farms. The process of carding, spinning, reeling, and weaving were performed by hand. The hand-loom of those early days is as much surpassed in efficiency by the hand-loom of modern times, as the latter is by the power-loom of our factories. The weft, instead of being conveyed across the loom by means of a shuttle, was rolled into a ball, and thrown or "picked" by hand from one side to the other, by two persons alternately. The shuttle was a great improvement on the earlier system, but owing to its ponderous and unwieldy size, a person was still required to be stationed at each side of the machine, to propel it through the shed of the warp. The application of wheels to the shuttle (said, as before mentioned, to have been the invention of John Maden of Bacup) greatly added to its efficiency by lessening the friction, and enabled one person sitting in front of the loom to perform with greater ease that which before required the labour of two. As water power came to be applied in turning the machinery (a) the trade rapidly increased, and a regular flow of population into the manufacturing districts was the consequence.

As bearing on the trade of Rossendale in past days, the following is interesting:—In the "Travels through England," in

(a) To the application of water-power in turning the machinery which had been invented to supplant hand labour, there were at first strong prejudices openly expressed; as witness the old Rossendale man's prayer in a time of drought,—

"The Lord send rain to till the ground,
But not to turn the Engines round."

The woollen-carding engines are here referred to, these being put in motion by the water-wheel.

the years 1750, 1751, and later years, of Dr. Richard Pocoke, successively Bishop of Meath and of Ossory, published by the Camden Society in 1888, vol. i., p. 205, the following entry occurs: "Ascending the hills from Holme, we came to Bacup, a large village, where they have a great manufacture of woollen clothes which they send white to London. They are mostly Presbyterians, and have, as they call them, two chapels. (b) We left the mountains and came to Rochdale, which has its name from its situation in a narrow vale on the river Roche."

There is another mention of the extent of the woollen trade of Rossendale. The following is a copy of an advertisement which appears in a Lancashire newspaper of 15th May, 1746:—"This is to give notice that the bay makers in and about Rossendale who have formerly frequented Rochdale Market, intend for the future to expose their goods for sale every Wednesday at Newchurch in Rossendale. N.B. The Forest of Rossendale manufactures and consumes a much larger quantity of the above mentioned commodities than any other place of its extent in Lancashire." In the latter quarter of the 18th century Arkwright's inventions for spinning cotton gave another stimulus to the woollen trade in Rossendale as elsewhere, the machinery being equally well adapted to the latter manufacture. But it was reserved for the application of steam power to give that vast impulse to the employment of machinery in manufactures, which, in its extent and adaptability, has far exceeded the forecasts of the most sanguine.

From forty to fifty years ago there were in the town (or village, as it then was) of Bacup alone, eleven mills engaged in carding wool; and in the other parts of Rossendale, seventeen more mills were at work. These places, as a rule, were of small dimensions, because they were restricted in their use to but two branches of trade—those of devilling and carding. The spinning, reeling, (c) and

(b) The two chapels referred to are doubtless the Old School House, and the original Baptist Chapel in Lane Head Lane.

(c) In an old newspaper for 1777 I find the following "On Monday last Betty, wife of Robert Lee, of Burnley, and Ann, wife of John Harling, of

weaving were entirely domestic processes, almost every cottage and farmstead having its loom-house, or chamber, containing one, two, or more looms, and very often its spinning-loft. The proximity of the Forest of Rossendale to Rochdale, formerly, if not still, the centre of the flannel and baize trade, naturally favoured the growth of the manufacture in this district. The father of the Hardmans of Rochdale, (d) wool-staplers, celebrated for their enterprise as merchants during last century, was a Rossendale man, and is said to have had Spotland literally covered with sheep for the purposes of his business. Prior to the erection of our large factories, and the congregating of numerous workers under one roof, the capitalists engaged in the woollen manufacture "put out" the warp and wool to their several hands living in the district. The warp which

Bacup, were convicted for reeling false and short yarn, and paid the respective penalties by statute inflicted upon them, with all costs of prosecution." This evidently refers to an Act passed in the previous year, entitled—

An Act for the more effectually preventing frauds and abuses committed by persons employed in the manufacture of combing wool, worsted yarn, and goods made from worsted, in the counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire; which recites that

It shall be lawful to and for every inspector or inspectors from time to time, as occasion shall require, to demand entrance at all seasonable hours into the dwelling house or dwelling houses, shop or shops, outhouse or outhouses, of any agent or persons hired or employed to put out wool to be spun within the said counties of York, Lancaster and Chester, to inspect the yarn in the custody of any such agent or person hired or employed as aforesaid within the counties of York, Lancashire and Cheshire, where he has any information, or suspects any false or short reeled yarns; and in case of refusal by any agent or person hired or employed to put out wool to be spun into worsted yarn to permit or suffer such inspection, he, she, or they so refusing shall forfeit and pay such sum of money not exceeding £10 nor less than £5, as such justice or justices before whom he or they shall be convicted shall think proper to be recovered.—*Note by Fred Leary.*

(d) Lawrence, the father of John and James Hardman, was born at Greens, near Acre Mill, Spotland, in the year 1664. At 17 years of age he removed to Rochdale, and shortly became established as a wool-stapler in that town. At his death, which occurred in the year 1715, at Toad Lane, Rochdale, his two sons, John and James, succeeded to the business, and carried it on in

was spun ready for the loom, had to undergo the process of sizing before being "gaited up." This was also a domestic process, and an important one, requiring the supervision of an experienced hand. A large cistern or pan containing the size was placed upon the fire, and the material being boiled to the proper consistence, the warp was immersed in it. After remaining for a time, it was taken out again, stripped of the superfluous liquid, and carried into the open air to be dried.

Forty or fifty years ago, when the woollen trade was in the ascendant in the district, and before modern skill had displaced with machinery the slower modes of manipulation, the face of the country on a fine day presented a very different appearance to that which it assumes at the present time. Standing upon the slope of one of the hills, the spectator would have seen stretching along the edges of the highways and lanes, and skirting the fields on every side, long wavy wreaths, varying in shade from hodden gray to almost snowy white, motionless in the still air, or answering in undulations to the wind that stole briskly down the valley. These were the warps which the weavers had stretched out to dry after sizing; the yarn being made to rest on wooden stakes about four

partnership. After having been in trade for some time, John, the eldest, removed to Liverpool in order to devote attention to the concerns of the firm there; while James continued to reside at Rochdale. They were successful in their undertakings, and became wealthy merchants, owning their own trading ships.

The following additional particulars of the family are extracted from Gregson's "Fragments of Lancashire," pt. 2. p. 198.—"John Hardman, of Liverpool, merchant, who married Miss Cockshutt, and was M.P. 1754 for Liverpool; and James Hardman, who married Jane Leigh, of Oughtlington, gave for the estate at Allerton (near Liverpool) £7,700. £400 per acre has subsequently been paid for this land, which was divided between Mr. Clegg and Mr. Roscoe. Before and since Mr. Clegg and Mr. Roscoe's purchases, several suits have been instituted at Lancaster by various claimants. The source of these litigations has been the circumstance of no provision or future settlement having been made of the estate in contemplation of the death of Mr. James Hardman's children, who all died before they came of age. Mr. James Hardman, surviving his brother, died November 22, 1759; and Mrs. Jane Hardman, February 12, 1795."

feet in length each, inserted in the crevices of the fence walls in a horizontal position, and supported at the other end by upright stakes—or “stanners,” as they were called. Rossendale was much more thickly timbered in those days ; and the houses had scarcely begun to be built in unpicturesque rows, but were seen to stud the valley and the green hillsides either in detached groups, or as single residences. With the numerous busy hands arranging the drapery described above, it is easy to imagine how much more of pleasing variety the landscape, untainted with factory smoke, would present, when compared with its present bare and somewhat monotonous aspect.

The wool intended to be made into weft was weighed and delivered to the workpeople in its natural state. To prepare it for weaving, it was first oiled or greased ; it was then taken to one of the small mills in the district, where it underwent the operations of devilling and carding—the fibres of the material were made to lie parallel with each other, and the wool was also run into slivers or cardings of three to four feet in length. These were now taken home to be spun into weft on the Spinning-Jack. The latter was turned by hand by the spinner, the Jack-rim being at one end of the machine. Turning the wheel with one hand, he regulated the spinning and guided the winding of the weft on to the cops or bobbins with the other. Behind the Jack was the piecer, constantly on the move, keeping up a continual supply of the carded wool, now being drawn out and spun into thread ready for the loom, where it was applied in the ordinary way. On the completion of the piece, it was cut from the loom, hooked on pegs rudely fixed to the joists in the ceiling of the house, folded, and carried on the back of the weaver to the warehouse whence the material composing it had originally been obtained. The web was afterwards subjected to the fulling and finishing processes at mills in the district. In this way the cloths called baize, bockings, super-bockings, and mocks, were manufactured. Bacup was at one period famed for producing these goods. At the present time, within the Borough boundary, there is but one solitary Woollen mill.

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

panniers over the backs of donkeys or Shetland gals) came regularly out of Yorkshire to make their purchases at Hareholme.

The mill was the first building in Rossendale lighted with gas. This mode of illumination was then so rare, and thought so wonderful, that visitors from all parts, for miles round, came to witness the unusual sight which it presented when lighted up at night. From the time of its erection down to 1851, it continued to be a worsted mill, and during that period passed through several hands. It has now fallen into disuse.

In addition to the Woollen Spinning and Weaving Trade, the Combing of Wool was an industry rather extensively practised in Rossendale during the first quarter of the present century. Many of the inhabitants have a vivid recollection of the time when the festival in honour of Bishop Blaize, the patron saint of the wool-combers, was celebrated with much pomp and ceremony in Rossendale; (*f*) on which occasion the handsomest female in the

(*f*) "St. Blasius is generally represented as Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, and as having suffered martyrdom in the persecution of Licinius in 316. The fact of iron combs having been used in tearing the flesh of the martyr appears the sole reason for his having been adopted by the wool-combers as their patron saint. The large flourishing communities engaged in this business in Bradford and other English towns are accustomed to hold a septennial jubilee on the 3rd of February, in honour of Jason of the Golden Fleece and St. Blaize; and not many years ago this fete was conducted with considerable state and ceremony. First went the masters on horseback, each bearing a white sliver; then the masters' sons on horseback; then their colours; after which came the apprentices, on horseback, in their uniforms. Persons representing the king and queen, the royal family, and their guards and attendants followed. Jason, with the golden fleece, and proper attendants, next appeared. Then came Bishop Blaize in full canonicals, followed by shepherds and shepherdesses, wool-combers, dyers, and other appropriate figures, some wearing wool wigs.

"Apparently for no better reason than the sound of the prelate's name, it was customary to light fires on this day, or evening, on hill-tops or other conspicuous places. So determinedly anxious were the country people for the celebration by a blaze, that they would sacrifice articles of some importance

Forest was chosen to act the part of Queen for the day, attired in her regal robes, with her train of attendants dressed in the most grotesque habiliments, and these of every colour and shade. Those were the merry days of the past which the Poets sometimes sing. We have neither time nor relish for such displays now, having grown too precise and matter-of-fact. The greed of gain is so absorbing as to prevent our paying attention to such old-world manifestations of the poetry of every-day life.

For the following approximated particulars of the woollen trade of the district at the present time, I am indebted to the kindness of a gentleman engaged in that business, and familiar with the facts. The number of woollen manufacturers is six. These employ 1,200 hands; there are 500 looms at work; the wages paid weekly amount in the aggregate to £1,000, and the Capital employed is about £350,000.

The sum of the capital may seem large to those not conversant with the Woollen trade. Two of the most affluent firms in the district, however, export the great bulk of their manufactured goods, and together employ probably about two-thirds of the amount. The staple goods produced are baizes, used as clothing by the troops and natives of the Brazils, and the East and West Coasts of South America, in which places are stationed representatives of some of the Rossendale firms.

Another branch of this important industry is the Felt and Tapestry Carpet trade. In this there are four manufacturers engaged, employing 400 hands, and paying in wages about £400 per week. The production is 46,000 pieces, or nearly 3,700,000 yards of Carpet per annum, the Capital employed being about £160,000.

The Printing of these, and some few woven goods, forms an important item in the industry of the district. Of works engaged

to make one. Country women went about during the day in an idle merry humour, making good cheer; and if they found a neighbour spinning, they thought themselves justified in making a conflagration of the distaff."—*Chambers's Book of Days*, vol. i. p. 219.

in this trade there are four, employing 360 hands, and paying in weekly wages £400; whilst the Capital invested is close on £20,000.

Bringing the different departments of the trade together, we have the following result :—

TABLE SHOWING THE EXTENT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE
IN ROSSENDALE IN 1893.

| Department. | Hands employed. | Paid in Wages weekly. | Capital employed. |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Spinning and Weaving, | 1,200 | £ 1,000 | £ 350,000 |
| Felt and Tapestry, . | 400 | 400 | 160,000 |
| Printing, | 360 | 400 | 20,000 |
| Total, | 1,960 | 1,800 | 530,000 |

About nineteen years ago a new industry, which may be mentioned here (as it is closely allied to the woollen and felt), the Slipper trade, was introduced into Rossendale. It is not only new to the district, but it possesses original features in itself, and it was not an importation from any other part of the country. It came opportunely. The Cotton trade of Rossendale was suffering, and is still suffering, owing to the competition with India, at one time its best customer, where cotton goods of a similar class to those made in Rossendale are now being largely produced.

The Slipper trade is located chiefly at Waterfoot, in the very heart of the Rossendale district, and the story that is told of its origin is interesting. Mr. Samuel McLerie, now the oldest slipper manufacturer in the trade in Rossendale, has been resident here since 1859; and his sister, Mrs. Wylie, who had previously been employed at the Busby Printworks, near Glasgow, came about that time to reside at Waterfoot. It appears that the females employed at the Busby works are accustomed to make a kind

of slipper out of the used-up pieces of blanketting from the printing machines for wear during the working hours, and some years after her arrival in Rossendale Mrs. Wylie obtained a piece of felt from Bridge End Mills, and out of this fashioned a pair of slippers. Their neat and cozy appearance was admired by several persons, amongst the rest by Mr. Henry Rothwell, who was the occupant of the mills, and he induced her to make similar slippers for his wife and himself.

Subsequently, about the year 1874, Mr. J. W. Rothwell (nephew of the above), a woollen printer by trade, began to manufacture these felt slippers at his house in Miller Barn Lane. About 1876 he went into partnership with two other printers, Messrs. Clegg and Spencer, and this firm also began the manufacture. Mr. Samuel McLerie likewise entered into the trade shortly afterwards. The goods gradually found a market both in Rossendale and outside of it. Shortly after this, viz., about 1880, the firm of Messrs. Jas. Gregory & Company commenced a similar manufacture at Whitewell Bottom, and although their business was not very successful at first, it eventually became so, mainly owing to the tact and energy of Mr. H. W. Trickett, whom the firm engaged as traveller.

In 1883, Mr. Trickett began business on his own account at Carr Lane Mill, and later he purchased the large and commodious cotton mill at Gaghills, which he transformed into a slipper factory. At first the whole of the slippers were made by hand. Finding in the earlier years of his business at Carr Lane that the Germans had almost sole possession of the English market, and believing that it would be impossible to compete with them by hand, Mr. Trickett began and invented various machines, and adapted others for producing the goods. In this he has been entirely successful. He now is making at his two mills over 40,000 pairs of slippers weekly, sending them out to all parts of the world.

There are at the present time ten slipper factories in the district. The number of workpeople, mostly young men and women,

employed is about 1,300, who are earning higher wages than they could earn in the cotton mills. The number of slippers produced by the whole of the Rossendale factories is about 70,000 pairs weekly. These are of all descriptions, felt, carpet, Venetian, and a variety of other kinds, with linoleum, woodpulp, and leather soles; canvas shoes for the seaside are also largely produced. The amount paid in wages weekly is estimated at £1,100 to £1,200, and the capital invested in the trade is over £50,000. Rossendale derives a further benefit from the new Industry in the large amount of money that is spent with other firms in the district—felt manufacturers and others—not less a sum than £2,000 per month being paid over to them for goods supplied. In looking at the whole circumstances of the trade, one cannot but admire the enterprise that has been at its foundation and evolution, and the dictum of Dean Swift naturally recurs to us, that they are greatly deserving of esteem who, metaphorically speaking, make two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before.

The trade of Silk Weaving was at one time, near the beginning of the century, followed to some extent in Rossendale; so also was the manufacture of Gingham—a fabric having a cotton warp and linen weft—but these never assumed proportions of any magnitude, and at the present day are not found anywhere in the locality. The Cotton Manufacture was destined to take deeper root in the district; and to this, the staple industry of our time, we shall now direct attention.



CHAPTER II.

"First with nice eye emerging Naiads cull
From leathery pods the vegetable wool ;
With wiry teeth *revolving cards* release
The tangled knots, and smooth the ravell'd fleece ;
Next moves the *iron hand* with fingers fine,
Combs the wide card, and forms the eternal line ;
Slow, with soft lips, the *whirling can* acquires
The tender skeins, and wraps in rising spires ;
With quickened pace *successive rollers* move,
And these retain, and those extend the *rôve* ;
Then fly the spoles, the rapid axles glow,
And slowly circumpoles the labouring wheel below."

—DARWIN.—*The Loves of the Plants, canto II.*

"Cotton is King!"

"To every clime his labours stalk.

.
From pole to pole they hawk the work
Made by this English wight."

SONGS OF THE WILSONS.—*The Weaver.*

TO the Cotton Trade, more than to all other causes combined, is undoubtedly due the remarkable increase which has taken place in the population of Rossendale within the present century. To the development of that trade are also to be attributed the accumulation of wealth in many hands, the greatly-augmented value of the rateable property, and the advancement of the inhabitants in material prosperity and comfort. As has been already shown, (a) the increase in the amount of the population

(a) See *ante*, pp. 229-30.

between 1801 and 1891, a period of ninety years, is 380 per cent ;
(b) while the annual rental of the Forest for 1891 is 560 per cent. above the valuation of the year 1815.

It is probable that the Cotton Manufacture, which first began to assume importance in this country about the middle of the 17th century, did not find its way into Rossendale till near the end of the century following. It is not easy to determine with certainty the exact date when cotton first began to be worked in the district ; there is, however, good reason for conjecturing that no cotton goods were manufactured in Rossendale prior to the year 1770.

Between the latter year and 1780, a kind of muslin or fine cotton lawn was woven in a small "factory" (so called) which stood in Lane-head Lane, Bacup. Fustians also began to be made soon after this time. "Cotton Dealers" residing in the neighbourhood, and others from a distance, put out the warp and weft to the weaver, who brought back the manufactured cloth. In some cases the raw cotton was taken and put through the entire processes of batting, carding, spinning, and weaving. As with the woollen warp, so with the Fustian, the sizing was performed by the weaver. But instead of drying the sized warp in the open air, it was stretched on a machine called a "Deeting frame," and a bar of iron which had been made red hot moved backwards and forwards over its surface. This rod or bar was named the "Deeting iron," and it required a dexterous and steady hand to use it so as to dry the warp quickly without injuring the yarn.

The following extract is from a Deed of Partnership under date the year 1795, and is probably one of the earliest existing records of the Cotton manufacture in the district. It exhibits in a very striking manner the meagre dimensions of trade then, as compared with its present vast proportions.

(b) The increase in the population of England and Wales during the same ninety years is 270 per cent.

"ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

"Indented and made, and fully concluded upon, the eighteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, Between Christopher Hargreaves, of Haslingden, in the County of Lancaster, Cotton Spinner; Henry Whitaker, of Bacop, in the Forest of Rossendale, and County aforesaid, Cotton Dealer; John Lord, of Bacop, aforesaid, Cotton Dealer; and Edmund Lord, of Bacop, aforesaid, Cotton Dealer.

"And first of all the said parties have joined themselves to be Co-partners together in the Art or Trade of Spinning and Roving of Cotton, and all things thereunto belonging; or such other business in the cotton line as they shall hereafter pursue. And also in buying, selling, vending and retailing of all sorts of wares and goods belonging to the said Trade of Spinning and Roving Cotton; which said Co-partnership is to continue for the Term of Eight years and Ten months, from the eighth day of July next ensuing. And for the carrying on of the said joint Trade, each of the said Parties doth covenant and agree, that they will each of them bring into the said Joint Trade and Stock in Money and Goods to be used therein, on or before the eighth day of July next, the full sum of Twenty-five Pounds sterling. And it is hereby mutually covenanted and agreed upon by the said Parties, that their trade of Spinning and Roving of Cotton shall be carried on at their Joint Engine or Factory House situate at Lane-side, near Haslingden, or any other place which they, the said parties, shall mutually agree upon for that purpose, &c. (Signed), CHRISTOPHER HARGREAVES, HENRY WHITAKER, JOHN LORD, EDMUND LORD. Sealed, signed, and delivered on parchment, duly stamped in the presence of JAMES WHITAKER and JOHN PICCOP."

From the small sum of the Capital subscribed to the concern by each of the four partners, it may be concluded that their operations were but of very limited extent. A further deed of Partnership, dated 1803, to which the above mentioned Edmund Lord was a party, along with Joshua Lord, of Meadows, near Broadclough,

clothier; and James Maden, of Lane Head, Bacup, Cotton Spinner, shows an advance in the extent of the trade. The sum of the Capital subscribed is larger; and along with the carding, roving, and spinning of the cotton wool, was combined the manufacturing of the cotton goods. This partnership was to continue in force for the term of six years, and each partner brought one hundred pounds into the concern.

The old mill at the corner of Burnley road, Bacup, was the first considerable Cotton Factory erected in the district, and dates back to the end of last century. About the year 1800 James and William Clegg began to spin cotton yarn at "Little Baltic," near Waterfoot, and at the old "Soke Mill" at Mill end, in Wolfenden-Booth fold. It is probable that these were the earliest cotton-spinners in the immediate vicinity of Newchurch. At this early time the cost of a Hand-Loom was five pounds, (the price paid for a Power-Loom at the present day,) and the newly-married couple who could boast the possession of a pair of such looms on the day of their wedding were looked upon as being well provided for.

From 1815 to 1830 the trade of cotton-weaving on the hand-loom was at the briskest. In the latter year there were, at the lowest computation, thirty Weaving Shops, apart from the looms in dwelling-houses, in the Forest of Rossendale. The cloth made varied in quality and strength, and, in addition to the ordinary calico, consisted of "Fustians," "Pillows," or "Twills," "Bangups," and "Satteens," the latter having a fine velvety covering.

For a lengthened period after its introduction into Rossendale, the Cotton Manufacture was in quite an embryo state. The Woollen trade held a position far in advance; nor could the most sanguine advocates of the claims of Cotton ever have anticipated that during the first half of the present century the old-established Woollen trade of Rossendale would have been so completely outstripped in extent and importance by its younger rival.

Amongst those who, at an early date, took a leading position as Cotton-Spinners and Manufacturers in Rossendale, special mention

must be made of Robert and John Munn. This enterprising firm entered into the Cotton trade at Old Clough Mill, Irwell Springs, about the year 1824. The regular business habits and vigilant attention exercised by the firm, who, in the erection of Stacksteads Mill had launched boldly out into the business, secured their success; and this had the effect of greatly encouraging and stimulating the growth of the Cotton trade in Rossendale, with which trade their name will always continue to be intimately associated.

At Rawtenstall the brothers Whitehead were amongst the earliest, and eventually became the largest, Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers, and it is mainly to their energy and enterprise that this portion of the district has made such rapid and substantial progress in population and wealth. The firm of Hardman Brothers are also of old standing here, both as Woollen and Cotton Manufacturers, and give employment to a large number of operatives in both departments.

There are a number of Limited Companies having Mills in the immediate vicinity of Rossendale, a large proportion of the capital of which is contributed by persons residing in this district.

From the beginning of the century down to the year 1830, about twenty-three of the smallest of the mills at present engaged in the Cotton Manufacture, and the greater portion of the Shoddy Mills, were erected. Most of these were, however, originally intended for, and were used in, the Woollen trade. From 1830 to 1839 eleven Cotton factories were built. From 1840 to 1849 twenty more had sprung into existence. The next decennial period, from 1850 to 1859, witnessed the greatest extension of the trade in Rossendale, forty-five mills being erected in that time. From 1860 to 1867 eighteen of the largest Cotton Mills in the district were built. Since the latter year to the present, the number has only been increased by three, whilst some of the older mills have been abandoned, the buildings being unsuitable for the trade under existing conditions.

The raw cotton consumed annually in the Rossendale mills is about 76,000,000 lbs.; the yarn produced, 68,000,000 lbs.; cloth, 210,000,000 yards. The number of spindles at work is 835,000, and of looms, 22,000. The operatives employed are about 20,000, and the wages paid weekly amount to between £12,000 and £14,000. The total capital invested is over £2,000,000. A surprising result truly, when it is remembered that at a time within the present century, the whole of the cotton consumed in Rossendale was brought into the district on the backs of pack-horses.

Of trades directly dependent upon the cotton manufacture, we have in Rossendale Cotton Warp Sizers, Reed and Heald manufacturers, and other subsidiary trades, employing 500 hands, paying in wages, weekly, about £400, with an invested capital of £35,000. A large and important business in Calico Printing and Dyeing is also carried on.

The upper part of the district is supplied with water by the Rossendale Water Works Company, and the lower from the works of the Bury Corporation. The district is lighted by the Rossendale Union Gas Company, which includes nearly the whole of Rossendale within its area of supply. The Company was incorporated by special Act of Parliament in 1854.

The line of Railway which traverses the Rossendale Valley diverging from the main line at Stubbins, near Ramsbottom, and extending to Bacup, where it terminates, is a branch of that vast network of iron which permeates the two chief manufacturing counties of England, and known by the name of "The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway."

Previous to the amalgamation of the East Lancashire with the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, the line which threads the Rossendale valley constituted a Branch of the former. The town of Bury claims the honour of having given birth to the undertaking. A number of capitalists there were desirous to connect their town by railway with Manchester, and, with that object in view, instituted a canvass in the town and surrounding

districts. This was so satisfactory in its results as to lead them not only to carry their project into effect, but also to extend their operations so as to include the Rossendale valley to Rawtenstall. The first prospectus of the Company was issued in the year 1843, and is a sufficiently modest document. From this it appears that it was originally contemplated to lay down a single line of rails only, the Capital proposed being £300,000. The undertaking was designated "The Manchester, Bury, and Rossendale Railway," and the first Act of Parliament of the Company received the royal assent on the 4th July, 1844. The line from Manchester to Rawtenstall, a distance of 18 miles, was opened for the conveyance of passengers on the 28th September, 1846, and for goods traffic in May, 1847. A further Act obtained by the Company authorising the continuation of the line from Rawtenstall to Crawshawbooth and Bacup, received the royal assent on July 27th, 1846. The proposed extension to Crawshawbooth has not been carried out. The line from Rawtenstall to Newchurch (two miles) was opened for passenger and goods traffic on the 27th March, 1848. The subsequent extension to Bacup, the most costly portion of the Branch line, owing to the construction of the tunnels through the heights at "Thrutch," was not completed for several years afterwards, being opened for passenger conveyance on the 1st October, 1852, and for goods traffic on February 1st, 1853. The Company first took its name of "The East Lancashire Railway Company" on the 3rd August, 1846. The new line from Bacup to Facit was opened in 1881, and was subsequently continued to Rochdale.

The introduction of the Railway into Rossendale, by increasing the facilities of transport and intercommunication, gave a marked stimulus to trade and manufactures, which, it may be safely assumed, could otherwise scarcely have reached their present proportions.

To one important branch of industry in the district, the Railway may almost be said to have given birth. This is the Stone Trade, respecting which we will now state a few particulars.

Stone abounds in the district in considerable variety, and of

excellent quality, being very durable, and of a good colour. Prior to 1848, the trade in this article was of very limited extent, being confined chiefly to the immediate district. Since that year, however, it has been gradually increasing, and at the present time gives employment to a large number of workmen, skilled and otherwise, and absorbs a considerable amount of capital. The stone, which is suitable for all ordinary Building and Engineering purposes, is obtained from the various Quarries in the district, from blocks of many tons' weight each, and of almost unlimited length, width, and depth, down to gray slates of half-an-inch in thickness. Some of the varieties for appearance and durability are not to be surpassed.

The export trade is very large, extending to Manchester, Preston, Liverpool, some parts of Yorkshire, Birmingham, London, and other places. Some idea of its magnitude may be gathered from a knowledge of the fact, that £2,700 and upwards is paid per month for carriage by Railway to the various places above enumerated. From Liverpool and London, considerable quantities of the Rossendale Stone are also trans-shipped to the East Indies, South American, and other foreign ports, and this export traffi is rapidly increasing. The rent paid as Delphage for some of the Quarries amounts to many times what would otherwise be considered the value of the Fee-simple of the land, and the latter still remains available, to some extent, for farming and building purposes. Several Mills for the polishing of flags have been erected in the district by which the value of the stone is much enhanced. Large quantities of the Rossendale flags, however, have a natural face almost as smooth as those which have undergone the polishing process, and by many persons are considered better than the latter, inasmuch as they are exceedingly hard, and are often found to possess a beautiful grain. As regards the extent of the Stone Trade of Rossendale, the following statement may be taken as being a close approximation to the facts. Number of persons employed, 1,200. Amount paid in wages weekly, £1,200. Weight of Stone of all kinds obtained from the several Quarries weekly,

3,000 tons. Capital invested, £65,000. The Horncliffe delphs, though not within the boundary of Rossendale Forest, are yet in such close proximity as to warrant their being embraced in any estimate of the extent of the stone trade in the district. They are accordingly included in the above statement.

Coal abounds in Rossendale almost throughout its entire extent, and has probably been got in quantities more or less for about three hundred years. Old workings, regarding which no records are known to exist, are often met with in the mines at present being worked. (c) Some of these are of considerable extent. In the mine of Messrs. Hargreaves and Co., at Stacksteads, one of such workings was discovered some years ago; and a poor fellow who attempted to make an exploration, not having taken proper precautions, lost his way and was unable to return. On search being made a few days afterwards, he was found dead. Rude implements of labour, chiefly wooden shovels, are occasionally met with in these deserted excavations. The supply of coal for the different manufactories in the district is chiefly obtained from local mines, which are numerous, employing many hands and a large capital.

It is proper here to refer to the attempts that were made during last century to establish another mining industry in the district.

In the year 1754, an advertisement appeared on the walls in Rossendale and the other districts comprised within the Honor of Clitheroe, in the shape of a placard or handbill, giving notice that the lessors of the lead mines, veins or beds of lead, copper, iron or tin in the copyhold lands in the Honor of Clitheroe, proposed to let any mears of ground therein with free liberty to search for the minerals aforementioned to any person or persons for a term to be agreed upon. In response to this announcement a number of gentlemen came forward, formed themselves into a Company, and took the property for a term of twenty-one years.

(c) Many traces of old coal-pit workings may also be seen on the Todmorden valley side of Floor Scar.

The lease bears date 26th February, 1754. The firm or company styled themselves "The Company of Mine Adventurers within the Honor of Clitheroe." The rent they undertook to pay for the privilege of mining was "One hundred weight of lead ore, boose and smithum, copper, iron and tin, out of every eleven hundred weight, or one-eleventh part found and gotten within the liberties aforesaid." But it was also stipulated that the rent was to be paid in kind or in money as the same might be required by the lessors.

The shares of the company were sixty in number, and each person held ten shares. Meetings of the company were held on the Monday in every month next the full moon, at the Roebuck Inn, at Rochdale, or such other place as might be appointed. Each proprietor had a vote for every share or sixtieth part, and there was no voting by proxy. The chairman was appointed at every meeting. Thomas Percival was the first treasurer, and without salary. George Crompton was appointed first clerk, at a salary of 10s. 6d. a week. The company commenced operations and prosecuted them vigorously for a time, and the evidences of their work may still be seen along the sides of the hill ridges and in other parts of Rossendale, in the shape of "bloomeries," in which the ore found was smelted.

I am not able to give a full statement of the pecuniary results of the enterprise, but I conclude that they were not successful, as the company was dissolved in 1762, eight years after it was formed. From memoranda in my possession I find a sum of £3,413 was paid in calls on the shares. These were probably £100 each, so that more than one-half the capital was paid. So far as I can ascertain, the value of the lead ore found amounted to only £855. It would appear, however, that, notwithstanding these unsatisfactory results, faith in the enterprise was still strong, because a new company was organised in 1766, but with what results I am unable to say.

CHAPTER III.

"God helps those that help themselves."—*Old Maxim.*

"And we shall sit at endless feast,
Enjoying each the others' good :
What vaster dream can hit the mood
Of love on earth ?"—TENNYSON.—"*In Memoriam.*"

THE sentiments expressed in the mottoes which appear at the head of the present chapter, are peculiarly appropriate in their application to the principles which are embodied in the maxims and work of the co-operative classes in this country.

The Co-operative movement is essentially an effort on the part of Labour to work out its own salvation. As such, it deserves, and will eventually command, the sympathy of all thoughtful minds. In the face of the perils with which its path is beset—all the greater because they arise more from within than from without—the wonder is, not that it occasionally fails of its object, but that it should have achieved so much substantial success. Rossendale has borne a conspicuous and honourable part in furthering this great movement ; and this counts for something in its history.

About forty-seven years ago, a few earnest working men were accustomed to meet in the room over the old Co-operative Store, Rochdale Road, Bacup, for which they paid a rent of fifteen pence per week. Their primary object in assembling together was to improve themselves in the rudiments of education—reading, writing, and arithmetic ; and to discuss projects for the amelioration of their condition in life. To these subjects they added, by way of recreation, a little vocal and instrumental music, which they

practised on occasional evenings. Being men who were independent enough to think for themselves, they naturally took a strong interest in politics, and in consequence entered warmly into the exciting questions which agitated the minds of the people at that day. But while contributing their quota to the political life of the nation at the period to which I refer, they deemed it prudent at the same time to put forth a local and personal effort to improve their circumstances. With wise instinct they laid hold of Co-operation. The fact that many of the articles of daily consumption in their families were grossly adulterated was known to each of them ; to provide a remedy for this, more than the prospect of direct pecuniary gain, prompted their first essay in Co-operation. The original society numbered fourteen persons, and each of these laid down sixpence, making seven shillings, the sum total of the first capital with which they ventured into the market. The number *seven* has always been esteemed lucky. This sum they spent in coffee, at the shop of a wholesale dealer at Todmorden, and shared it equally amongst them. They were pleased with the result of this their first transaction, for not only had they obtained an unadulterated article—they had purchased it at a cheaper rate than they otherwise could from a retail dealer. Here was an eloquent and practical argument in favour of their venture, which the most timid or querulous member amongst them was unable to gainsay. A grand vista was at once opened up to their mind's eye. To the more thoughtful of them the prospect would be almost overpowering, and they probably looked into the future with anxious forebodings. To stimulate them in their exertions they had, however, the noble example of the Rochdale Pioneers before them, the success of whose enterprise, begun in 1844, was already making itself known. They steadily increased in number, and their capital grew in proportion. The range and value of their purchases extended. Tea, coffee, sugar, soap, and other articles of common domestic consumption were now purchased in quarter cwt. at once ; and the corn-mill carts were employed to convey the goods over the hill from Todmorden to Bacup. A neighbour who was

friendly to the movement lent his scales to weigh out the goods, and the members carried their tea-caddies and coffee-canisters to the room, to save the trouble of wrapping the articles in paper. Their business continued steadily to grow. Many more were becoming alive to the advantages which the system offered to working men. The more careful and industrious amongst the operative classes flocked to the new Store. Still the business grew, and the upper room was found inconvenient, and quite unsuited to the carrying on of an extensive trade. A meeting of the members was called, and it was decided to take the entire building on a lease for twenty-one years. At first it was under consideration to let off the back part of the shop at fifteen pence per week, but more members continuing to come in, they abandoned their intention in this respect. In the course of a few years the premises were found to be too contracted for their trade, and had to be enlarged by the addition of a frontage to the shop; and even growing beyond these bounds, the society resolved to build a Store of their own,—the present handsome and commodious building, to which they removed in 1863.

Great were the difficulties which the early Co-operators in Rossendale had to encounter in introducing and carrying out their favourite theories. They were unpopular with the multitude. Stereotyped Ignorance shook its head and called them Chartists and infidels, innovators and levellers. Their visionary projects, as they were at first considered to be, were scouted and laughed at; and many were the prophecies of speedy insolvency and disgrace. Their shop originally was open only in the evenings. This was a necessity, as the shopmen, who were chosen to serve for three months at a time, were employed in other manual labour during the day. They received no remuneration for their time and work in the Store. In the face of the opposition which was displayed, and feeling their inexperience, considerable diffidence was at first manifested by the men in the discharge of their duties; and it was in consequence of this amongst them to draw cuts who should remove the shutters from the windows on opening in the evening. Their

awkward manner of wrapping up the articles was also watched, and formed the occasion of amusement to those who tried to load the movement with derision. But perseverance and a conscience void of offence will carry a man through many difficulties, and the Rossendale Co-operators still struggled on, till a success, greater than was anticipated, crowned their enterprise.

It is to be expected that mistakes would at first occasionally be made, through inexperience, in "buying in." Some of these assumed a ludicrous aspect: one example will suffice. Two of the members were deputed to purchase a number of cheeses. They invested in fourteen. But on arrival they were found to be so hard as to need cutting up with a saw; and where the instrument had passed through, they shone like a piece of glass or ivory, being nearly as difficult to masticate. These cost sixpence per pound wholesale, and had to be retailed out at fourpence; turning the penny, certainly, but not increasing the profit.

The Share and Loan Capital of the Bacup Co-operative Store amounted in December 1892 to £79,880; the number of members at the same period was 2813. They turned over their stock eight times during the year, and realised a profit of £16,635, their working expenses being 7·9 per cent. upon the returns.

The Society possesses a news and reading-room, plentifully supplied with newspapers and journals; a circulating and reference library, containing in the whole 12,500 volumes; all free to members; and a spacious assembly-room capable of seating 1200 persons. The business portion of the premises is ample and commodious. The whole buildings and fixtures belonging to the Society cost £28,273. It is free from debt, never having had any mortgage or encumbrance on it whatsoever. The Society has a Reserve-fund amounting to £3,179. In connexion with the parent establishment are seven branches and a large central shoe and clog department.

Such is a brief outline of the rise and progress of the oldest Co-operative store in Rossendale. On the question of Co-operation

in general, and by way of encouragement to the Co-operators of Rossendale in particular, let me make the remark, that the size and regularity of its dividends are not to be viewed as the measure of what it has achieved, and is capable of achieving ; though we shall not be so squeamish as to deny that this is the mainspring of the successful progress of the Co-operative movement : and it is right that it should be so. The soul with the finest sensibilities is still wedded to the clay of our common humanity, and that same clay must eat if it would continue to live. The fine sensibilities will avail it nothing in this life if it gives not heed to the bread which perisheth. It is sheer sentimentalism to pretend to deplore that the movement is altogether selfish, and that the dividend is the keystone of the whole system. This is about as wise as to make show of despising the poet for being so vulgar as to eat his dinner. Even the wheels of State would drag heavily were it not for the ample contributions of the people. Gold is a wonderful lubricator ! and life at the best would be but a series of jerky movements without it. But besides the all-powerful dividend which it secures for its members, Co-operation has given a direction to the thoughts and actions of thousands who had either thought and acted at random, or had not previously thought at all. It has been a grand teacher of political and social economy to thousands more. The cloud by day, the pillar of fire by night, to guide many a poor child of bondage from the Egypt of debt, with all its hard task-masters, to the promised land of independence and self-reliance. Many an unthrifty parent—unthrifty, not so much from inclination or choice as from lack of purpose, has been led by its agency to become a careful and thoughtful provider. But it will accomplish more even than this. Co-operation is a fulcrum on which to rest the lever that will move the State. A quiet argument for the moral and intellectual fitness of the people to exercise their just political rights, which will certainly prevail ;

“ Nought can make it rue,
If Labour to itself prove true.”

The following Table of Industrial and Provident Societies in Rossendale is compiled partly from Returns furnished to Government, and, where these were not supplied, from the managers of the Stores themselves:—

**TABLE.—General Statement of the Funds and Effects of Industrial and Provident Societies
in the Forest of Rossendale for the year 1892.**

| NAME OF SOCIETY. | Members at end of 1892. | LIABILITIES. | | | ASSETS. | | | TRADE. | | PROFITS. | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Share Capital at end of 1892. | Loan Capital at end of 1892. | Reserve Fund at end of 1892. | Value of Saleable Stock at end of 1892. | Value of Land, Bldgs., & Fxd. Stk. at end of 1892. | Value of Allowed for De- preca- tion during 1892. | Invest- ments at end of 1892. | Received for Goods Sold during 1892. | Trade Charges during 1892. | Total Net Profit made during 1892. | Average Dividend Paid per £. | Applied for Educational Purposes during 1892. | Applied for Charitable Purposes during 1892. |
| Bacup | 2813 | £ 52985 | £ 26895 | £ 3179 | £ 11642 | £ 19934 | £ 620 | £ 45220 | £ 91896 | £ 5982 | £ 15892 | s. d. | £ 262 | £ 41 |
| " Conservative | 637 | 10161 | 2962 | 149 | 3481 | 6263 | 212 | 3017 | 17488 | 1114 | 3055 | 3 2½ | .. | 3 |
| " Cawl Terrace | 568 | 8357 | 50 | 385 | 2874 | 5242 | 88 | 1770 | 13839 | 795 | 2627 | 3 3½ | 50 | 7 |
| Crawshawbooth | 607 | 17055 | .. | 892 | 2335 | 3531 | 155 | 12827 | 21910 | 1005 | 4381 | 4 0 | .. | .. |
| Love Clough | 390 | 9482 | 254 | 522 | 2486 | 4818 | 134 | 3088 | 16834 | 786 | 3238 | 3 11½ | 33 | 6 |
| Lumb | 190 | 1401 | .. | .. | 854 | 593 | 20 | 72 | 6751 | 261 | 924 | 3 4½ | .. | .. |
| Rawtenstall Conservative | 804 | 9693 | 495 | 150 | 3157 | 6657 | 164 | 2315 | 22538 | 1071 | 3403 | 3 2 | .. | 6 |
| " Industrial | 1024 | 11282 | 6783 | 656 | 3399 | 11312 | 118 | 2292 | 13461 | 1032 | 2266 | 2 6 | 4 | .. |
| Stacksteads | 760 | 14406 | 4058 | .. | 3425 | 7678 | 80 | 8151 | 20352 | 662 | 3183 | 3 1½ | 2 | .. |
| Tunstead | 411 | 5536 | 766 | 229 | 1640 | 2861 | 146 | 1595 | 11216 | 200 | 2037 | 3 5½ | .. | 3 |
| Water | 156 | 1548 | 112 | 25 | 905 | 434 | 20 | 307 | 5886 | 303 | 458 | 1 10 | .. | .. |
| Waterfoot | 684 | 8673 | 4563 | .. | 3550 | 7811 | 102 | 1419 | 11087 | 625 | 1799 | 2 11½ | .. | 5 |
| Whitewell Bottom | 220 | 2160 | 705 | 162 | 981 | 1871 | 60 | 520 | 6834 | 373 | 1300 | 3 4 | .. | .. |
| Total | 9264 | 152679 | 47644 | 6349 | 40723 | 75315 | 1919 | 82593 | 260992 | 14209 | 44563 | .. | 351 | 71 |

From the foregoing Table, which deserves a careful perusal, we learn that the total members in the different stores in Rossendale amounted in December 1892, to 9264. These figures may be taken to represent a population of from 30,000 to 35,000 as being directly and indirectly connected with the Societies.

The Rawtenstall Society, like the one at Bacup, has a well-furnished Library and Newsroom for the use of, and free to, members.



CHAPTER IV.

"The flesh will quiver where the pincers tear!"

—YOUNG.—"*The Revenge*."

"Hungry ruin had me in the wind."

"There's stakes an' watch-bills, just loik poikes,

'Ot Hunt an' aw th' reformink toikes,

An' thee an' me, an' Sam o' Moiks,

Once took a blanketteerink."

—"SONGS OF THE WILSONS."

THE 23rd and three subsequent days of April, 1826, are marked with a red letter in the annals of Popular Outbreaks. On the 26th of the month an angry crowd of rioters advanced through the Rossendale valley towards Bacup, marshalled by ringleaders bearing in their hands, and over their shoulders, such formidable instruments as pikes, axes, cleavers, and huge fore-hammers. Their followers were a motley crowd of dirty, hungry-looking men and youths, and a sprinkling of bareheaded, unkempt women; the latter by far the most noisy and demonstrative of the crowd. The men indeed scarcely exchanged a word as they proceeded on their unlawful mission, but a strange mixture of fear, revenge, and defiance was visible upon their countenances. These were the Power-Loom Breakers of April 1826.

Property is a sacred and weighty word in Lancashire—nowhere more sacred and weighty than in Rossendale, and its possession counts for a good deal. It is a serious thing to damage or destroy property. Those who purpose undertaking its destruction should sit down and count the cost before beginning. If their

countenances were a true index of their feelings, the Power-Loom Breakers of the 26th of April 1826 had counted the cost of their undertaking. Riots had broken out in different parts of East Lancashire in the same week, not exactly by preconcerted arrangement, though the simultaneous risings might justify such an opinion. The feeling of opposition to the power-driven machinery had become so strong and general throughout the manufacturing districts, that, like a match applied to a train of gunpowder, the first outbreak lighted up a wide-spread conflagration. Detachments of the mob were found at Blackburn, Accrington, Helmshore, Ramsbottom, Summerseat, Chatterton, Rossendale and elsewhere; and each, so far as they were able, pursued their work of destruction. Upwards of 1000 Power-Looms, woollen and cotton, and a quantity of Dressing and other machines were destroyed before the several crowds of rioters were dispersed.

The Rossendale valley, from Edenfield to the source of the river Irwell, suffered greatly from the violence of the incensed multitude; from three hundred and fifty to four hundred looms (considered a large number sixty years ago) were broken to pieces in this district alone. At Helmshore the rioters came in collision with the military; and near to the mill of Messrs. Aitken and Lord, Chatterton, the Looms in which had been totally destroyed, the soldiers, who arrived too late to save the property, fired upon the mob, killing five men and one woman.

In Rossendale nothing occurred to check their progress. Our present system of Police surveillance throughout the country was then but in its infancy, and had not been introduced into Rossendale. The Constables of the Forest, "Jim Blacksmith," "Bill i'th Loin," "Long Sam," "Long George," and their ungainly compeers, were powerless to prevent the mischief, and with the instinctive sagacity of the "Watch," wisely kept aloof from the scenes of outrage and spoliation. The mob had free course through the entire district, and thoroughly they performed the work they had undertaken to do. "Tackle-ti-mash" (the nickname of one of the leaders of the Rossendale mob) and his

brethren in arms, were all-powerful for the time being, and carried the day. After leaving Edenfield, where they demolished one hundred looms, the crowd visited Rawtenstall. Here the mills of the Messrs. Whitehead and Mr. Kay were the objects of their vengeance, and they destroyed about one hundred and twenty more. Gradually augmenting in numbers and strength, the rioters proceeded up the valley. At Holt-holme Mill they left the marks of their presence. After passing the Thrutch, the turnpike road through which was then in course of formation, they halted at the mill of the Messrs. Ormerod, Waterbarn. Here the ringleaders entered, while their followers kept guard outside. An eye-witness states that they first cut out the Warps, and destroyed the Reeds and Healds, and then with a few well-aimed blows they demolished the Looms. Tunstead Mill contained a number of the obnoxious machines, and these next fell a prey to the vengeance of the destroyers. Irwell Mill, Bacup, at that time occupied by Mr. Holden, was the next on the route, and was visited by the mob with similar results. From thence the crowd made their way to the mill of Messrs. R. and J. Munn at Irwell Springs, where, having repeated their work of havoc, they brought the day's proceedings to a termination. It is easier to break down than to set up, to overthrow than to restore, and the labour of many weeks was thus destroyed in a few hours.

The women, as has already been hinted, were not unmoved spectators of these lawless proceedings. It is well known that some of them, forgetting the decorum of their sex, took actual part in, and afterwards prided themselves on having materially assisted at the demolition. So enthusiastic in the fray was a certain misguided female, that on the approach of the mob to one of the factories named, she ascended the belfry, and rang out a welcome to the rioters.

The strong arm of the law eventually asserted its might, and such of the perpetrators of the outrages as were arrested, suffered fines, imprisonment, or transportation, according to the magnitude of their offences. Others of them contrived to elude the grasp of

the authorities by retiring for a time to obscure hiding-places amongst the hills and surrounding moorlands, where they were supplied with the necessaries of life by friends cognizant of their hiding-places. (a)

(a) The following are the names of those belonging to Rossendale and the immediate vicinity charged with being concerned in the Riots:—

From Musbury.—James Shorrocks, Mary Hindle, and Thomas Emmet, found *guilty*.

From Lower Booths.—Thomas Ashworth, found *guilty*. Against Alice and Peggy Lord there was *no bill*.

From Haslingden.—Alexander Norris, John Orrell, Margaret Yates, Mary Marsden, and Ann Entwistle, found *guilty*. Betty Haworth, William Taylor and William Almond, *acquitted*.

From Dearden-Clough.—Anthony Harrison, *acquitted*.

From Tottington Higher End.—Aaron Gregson, *acquitted*.

In the encounter between the Military and Rioters at Chatterton, the following persons were either killed on the spot, or died shortly afterwards:—

Richard Lund, by trade a blacksmith, but who kept a small shop at Haslingden; shot through the belly.

James Rothwell, a weaver at Haslingden; through the breast.

James Ashworth, a weaver at Haslingden; through the body.

James Lord, a fulling-miller at Newchurch; through the body and head.

James Whatacre, dresser for Messrs. Rostrons' power-looms; through the body.

Mary Simpson, the wife of—Simpson, a weaver at Haslingden; through the left thigh.

Three of these left families; and one of them—Whatacre—was not engaged in the riot, but unfortunately had got amongst the mob. The female, it is supposed, had bled to death for want of assistance. Of the number wounded nothing certain could be ascertained, as they were carried away by their friends.

Judgment of death was recorded against the rioters to the number of forty-two, including seven females. The jury, however, having recommended them to mercy, the capital sentence was not carried into effect.

The following is from the *Liverpool Mercury* of September 1st, 1826:—

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE COUNTY.—The actions brought against the different Hundreds of the County, to recover compensation for the damages sustained by breaking power looms, during the disturbances in the month of April last, were twenty-three in number, two of which—namely, one by Messrs. Walmesleys of Oswaldtwistle, and one by David Ashworth, of

The conduct of the rioters was reprehensible, but it would be invidious and unfair to attribute the entire blame of these reckless and unjustifiable measures to the ignorant multitude who were the immediate instruments of such wanton destruction.

Newchurch—were not commenced in time for these Assizes, and consequently stand over to the next. Of the remaining twenty-four actions, the great majority were undefended, and verdicts were taken by consent, in the Sheriff's Court, for sums fixed on by a comparison of the valuations made by the claimants with those made under the directions of the magistrates. Three or four actions were, however, defended; but in each a verdict was obtained for the plaintiffs. The following is a summary of the different amounts recovered:—

AGAINST THE HUNDRED OF BLACKBURN.

| | No. of Looms. | £ | s. | d. |
|--|---------------|---------|----|----|
| Messrs. Sykes, Accrington, | 60 | 1039 | 17 | 6 |
| Mr. Marquis, do. | 4 | 44 | 13 | 9 |
| Mr. Jas. Bury, do. | 94 | 1889 | 0 | 0 |
| Messrs. Eccles, Blackburn, | 212 | 3178 | 15 | 10 |
| Mr. John Haughton, do. | 25 | 284 | 11 | 9 |
| Mr. Jas. Garsden, Darwen, | 36 | 413 | 8 | 2 |
| Messrs. Cars, Darwen, | 16 | 196 | 13 | 0 |
| Messrs. Turner, Musbury, | 106 | 1651 | 3 | 8 |
| Messrs. Whitehead, Lower Booths, | 96 | 1049 | 6 | 1 |
| Mr. Kay, Coupe Lench, | 20 | 273 | 16 | 6 |
| Messrs. Ormerod, Newchurch, | 20 | 363 | 1 | 11 |
| Messrs. Hargreaves & Co., Newchurch, | 28 | 348 | 9 | 2 |
| Messrs. Munn, Newchurch, | 51 | 860 | 19 | 7 |
| | 768 | £11,593 | 16 | 11 |

AGAINST THE HUNDRED OF SALFORD.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|----|---|
| Messrs. Rostron, Tottington Higher End, | 58 | £1500 | 0 | 0 |
| Messrs. Aitken and Lord, do. | 46 | 568 | 0 | 0 |
| Messrs. Hamer and Sons, Elton, | 38 | 253 | 7 | 0 |
| Mr. Hutchinson, Bury, | 49 | 244 | 12 | 0 |
| Mr. John Clegg, Crompton, | 28 | 418 | 1 | 6 |
| Mr. Hugh Beavers, Manchester, no Looms | | 1474 | 0 | 0 |
| | 219 | £4458 | 0 | 6 |

The period under review was a sad one for the working classes. A lengthened season of commercial distrust had succeeded the previous years of prosperous, though speculative, and therefore, in a measure, unsound trade. The general want of confidence had caused a run on the Banks, and in the provinces no fewer than fifty-eight had succumbed to the pressure of the times. Each day brought news of the failure of large mercantile and manufacturing firms of long standing. Low wages, diminished employment, and in many districts entire cessation of labour, were the consequences of the universal want of confidence which prevailed.

But this was not all. Our Legislators, unwise in their day and generation, by their restrictive imposts on food and merchandise, contributed more than all the other causes put together to cripple commerce and manufactures, and to bring about the all but universal national distress, most severely felt in the manufacturing districts, and the consequent disaffected condition of the Lancashire operatives. With Legislators ignorant, as a body, of the first principles of Political Economy, how could it reasonably be expected that the untutored worker should be alive to the evils which pressed like a hideous nightmare upon the industry of the country! If men professedly born to hold the reins of Government, and shape the destinies of the state, could be found sixteen years later (in 1842) to condemn the increase of machinery, (b) is it matter for surprise that the operatives of 1826 should have entertained mistaken views on the self-same question?

AGAINST THE HUNDRED OF LEYLAND.

| | | No. of Looms. | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------|----|---------------|------|----|----|
| Mr. Sudell, Chorley, .. | .. | 100 | £483 | 0 | 0 |

The total sum recovered is £16,534 17s. 5d., and the costs of the several actions will amount to about £3000 in addition. In the two actions yet to be tried, the damages are estimated at £253 9s. 6d.—the total cost to the County amounting to nearly £20,000.

(b) A distinguished member of the Government in 1842 informed a deputation that waited on him from the manufacturing districts, that the whole of the distress arose from the increase of machinery.

The excesses which people commit are often in their results found to recoil upon themselves. The largest share of the burdened county rates, out of which the manufacturers were compensated for the losses they had sustained, had necessarily to be contributed by the very class which the rioters hoped to benefit. But let us not be too severe in our judgment: destitution and hunger, when they speak from the tearful eyes of wives and children, are unscrupulous monitors, and strike home too deeply to admit of the exercise of calm reasoning. (c)

But it was not the operatives alone in Rossendale who viewed with such dread apprehension the advent of the steam-loom. At this day it will scarcely be credited that the merchants and woollen manufacturers of the Forest of Rossendale should have bitterly opposed the introduction of the obnoxious machines into the district; yet such is the fact. At a numerous meeting of the merchants and woollen manufacturers of the Forest of

(c) A writer, commenting upon popular outbreaks, makes the following just remarks:—"It was at the period when one of those feverish crises in the history of the cotton manufacture threatened a servile war against the introduction of some remarkable improvements in machinery, which appeared likely to displace hand-labour to a great extent. Neither experience nor political insight had yet taught workmen the truth, that England was by these means about to make the peaceful conquest of the commerce of the world, by clothing a large part of its varied peoples in almost everything but articles of luxury. The starving spinner and weaver in the lone cottages and homesteads on the edges of wild moors and ancient forests, or in the straggling villages of the rugged valleys, could not be expected to discern the plenty to be lavishly strewn by the new spinning-jenny, which deprived the family of work at the spinning-wheel, or, at a later time, by the iron steam-loom, which silenced the twelve hours' jingle and rattle of the cottage hand-loom. Any such inventions seemed a devilish trick to rob the poor of bread; to drive them from the comparative liberty of their lives in rural scenes to the close alleys of the towns, and the hot atmosphere of the factory, in which they were under a discipline more exact than that of the soldier, and more regular and engrossing than that of any other form of labour. Starvation for a large part of the people, and a lot worse than slavery for the rest, seemed a fate to resist which a few lives would not be thrown away."—"Scarsdale," vol. i., pp. 28, 29.

Rossendale, and places adjacent, held at the house of Mr. George Ormerod, the Black Dog Inn, Newchurch, on Thursday, the 7th November, 1822, the following Resolutions were adopted :—

“*Resolved*—That it appears to this meeting that the invention of Power-Looms for weaving by the aid of steam or water, is calculated to transfer manual labour from the cottages of the poor, and to leave them destitute of employment, by substituting the use of machinery ; as unnecessary as it is uncalled for.

“*Resolved*—That this meeting cannot but deplore the evil consequences that must result to a very numerous and industrious population, throughout the manufacturing districts, if some method be not speedily adopted to restrict the use of such machinery.

“*Resolved*—That as well-wishers to society, and to the general prosperity of trade and manufactures, we cannot contemplate the increase of unnecessary machinery (which is calculated to rob the poor of their domestic employment, and thereby endanger the peace of the country) without painful apprehensions ; and whilst we admit the benefits of machinery to a certain degree, we are aware that it may be multiplied to a most ruinous and mischievous extent.

“*Resolved*—That this meeting strongly recommends some legislative enactment for the protection of manual labour ; and is of opinion, that an assessment upon Power-Looms for the relief of the poor, annually made in every parish where they are used, would be the most fair and equitable ; such an assessment to be laid by a majority of lay-payers in vestry assembled, estimated and proportioned according to the extra profit derived from the use of Power-Looms, over that of weaving by manual labour.

“*Resolved*—That, for the purpose of carrying these resolutions into effect, a committee be appointed of all the gentlemen present, five of whom may be competent to act.

“*Resolved*—That these resolutions be published in the *Manchester Chronicle*, the *British Volunteer*, the *Leeds Intelligencer*, the *Blackburn Mail*, the *London Courier*, and the *St. James's Chronicle*.”

To such a lame and impotent conclusion did the collected wisdom of this important local assembly arrive in the year of grace 1822. That the invention of the Power-Loom was calculated to transfer manual labour from the cottages of the poor was a correct judgment of the meeting, as subsequent events have clearly testified ; but that its tendency was to leave them destitute of employment is an opinion which has been just as clearly refuted by the march of events. This very transfer of manual labour which the Capitalists of Rossendale deprecated so strongly, is one of the chief advantages which, by the introduction of the Power-driven Machinery, has accrued to the operative classes. Whether viewed from a moral, a social, a sanitary, or a pecuniary point of view, the benefits are so obvious as to preclude the necessity of argument in its favour. Idleness and dissipation during one portion of the week, and incessant toil approaching to slavery during the remaining portion, were the usual and almost inevitable concomitants of the domestic labour system.

The views of the Rossendale manufacturers were, by means of the press, widely promulgated throughout the country. While awarding to the ignorant rioters of 1826 their proportion of blame for the lawless proceedings which entailed so much destruction of life and property, let us not forget to ask ourselves how much of their folly was due to the teaching of those who, from their position, might have been expected to discern more clearly the signs of the times.

Among the remedies suggested, is the old one of Protection, in opposition to Free Trade. The desire to stifle progress and improvement with the burden of taxation is a doctrine, now happily effete, which at one time found favour in the eyes of many of our countrymen. Let us suppose for a moment that the recommendation of the meeting had been carried out, and that the Hand-Loom had been bolstered and "protected" so that it might have continued successfully to compete with its more efficient rival ; have we any guarantee that the foreign manufacturer would have taken the same narrow view of what was best for his interests ? Is

it not more reasonable to believe that the inventive genius of Britain would have sought scope for its development in situations more favourable to its growth? The cost of production would necessarily have been such as to debar our goods from every foreign market. And what then about robbing the poor of their domestic employment, thereby endangering the peace of the country? The whole thing is so preposterous that it would be a waste of words to discuss the propositions, were it not that by scrutinising the errors of our forefathers, we may gather some lessons of wisdom that will prevent our falling into the same quagmire of folly, and lead us rather to pursue that more enlightened and liberal policy which has contributed so largely to the advancement and prosperity of our country.

In 1820-1 Power-Looms began to be introduced into the district, and in the following year the meeting referred to was held to protest against their use, as being calculated to injure, and eventually to destroy, the system of domestic employment. The writer of a Pamphlet, dated 1823, reviewing an article which had appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* criticising and ridiculing the views of the manufacturers expressed at the meeting in question, strongly reprobates the conduct of those who, in the pamphleteer's opinion, were unpatriotic enough to countenance the use of the Power-Loom. His remarks, perused by the light of the present unexampled extension of the cotton trade, and the vast sums of money, in the shape of wages, which it distributes amongst the operatives, are amusing enough. In one place the writer, who styles himself "A Friend to the Poor," remarks :—"It is impossible, humanly speaking, to find any adequate employment proportionate to the hand-loom. Whether machinery can be multiplied to an extent beyond its demand, will be proved if power-looms become general, and the experiment may perhaps be made when it is too late to recall it." And again—"It remains, therefore, to be proved who are the best benefactors to their country—they who, from motives of avarice and self-interest, encourage the use of power-looms, regardless whether the poor be employed or not ; or

they who from motives of benevolence endeavour to promote their domestic employment, and consequently their moral happiness and comfort. Notwithstanding the many self-interested individuals who advocate the use of power-looms, (and I am well aware that wherever self-interest and undue prejudice prevail, all just reasoning loses its effect,) the time may not be far distant when the subject must be brought to a fair trial. The argument resolves itself into a narrow compass. Power-looms will produce cheaper goods than hand labour; if so, those who employ them have a decided advantage over those who do not; therefore, they must either become general, or a tax must be imposed upon them to make the wages equal to that of hand labour. If power-looms be generally introduced, what is the substitute for hand labour, to support the great number of people who will thereby be deprived of employment? These questions must be answered unequivocally, and until they be so practically, the peace of the country may be endangered, and a lawless rabble will make it a pretext for committing all the mischief in their power."

Further on the writer says:—"After all that has been, or can be said upon the subject, speculative individuals will pursue their own interest; but that ought not to be suffered without restrictions, where, as in this case, the daily bread of millions is at stake. It is impossible to view the subject disinterestedly, without the most painful apprehensions, whether as it involves domestic employment, the peace of families, the removal of our manufactures, or the depopulation of the country. All these, and many more calamities that might be mentioned, are connected with it." And by way of climax he adds,—“The employment of the labouring poor ought to be one of the first objects, either in a political or moral point of view—as it regards the prosperity of the country, or the welfare of society. To useful mechanical improvements, having a tendency to promote these ends, no well-wisher to society can have any possible objection; and those persons who encourage speculative gain that will deprive the poor of their bread, let them answer for it. Those mechanical inventions which are calculated to take from the

labouring classes their employment, should never be permitted amongst such a numerous population as we have, and no invention in machinery, I conceive, has a greater tendency to do so than Power-Looms." Comment is unnecessary.

In the minds of many of the operatives the prejudices against the power-loom were as strong as amongst the more short-sighted employers of labour; and these prejudices, stimulated by a season of bad trade, led to the unjustifiable riots already described. So tenaciously did many of the weavers cling to the old hand-loom, that in order to compete with the more productive rival, the "dandy loom" was introduced. This invention consisted of an adaptation of two looms in such a way as to admit of their being worked simultaneously by one person. The weaver sat betwixt the two, and by an ingenious arrangement gave motion to both.

A still further combination was attempted with success by John Hargreaves, a weaver, residing at Trice Barn, Dean, who, by an application of cords, pulleys, and levers, contrived to put four hand-looms in motion, thus weaving four distinct pieces of calico at one and the same time. These the inventor continued to work for several years, and only abandoned their use when his employers ceased to "put out" the warp and weft.

The Luddite outbreaks of 1812, and the Plug Riots of 1842, in both of which Rossendale participated and suffered to some extent, are examples of popular delusions similar in their manifestations to the Power-Loom Riots of 1826, though differing from the latter in the objects intended to be accomplished. The former, whilst aiming at the destruction of machinery, partook more largely of the political element. Both were ill-advised attempts on the part of the distressed operatives to take the law into their own hands, and both were consequent on a lengthened season of dull trade, low wages and dear food.

The Luddites were so designated after Ned Ludd, a man reputed as an idiot, who in 1782 had broken two stocking-frames

at Nottingham. The name afterwards came to be applied to breakers of machinery in general. It is to these that allusion is made in the lines—

" As the Liberty lads over the sea
Bought their freedom, and cheaply, with blood,
So we, boys, we
Will die fighting or live free,
And down with all kings but King Ludd."

In every town and village such means as were at the command of the authorities were employed to quell the disturbances. In the Book of the Greave of Rossendale Forest for this year we find entries relating to numbering the rate-payers, and summoning them to attend under the " Watch and Ward Act." Special constables were attested and sworn, and a register of Expenses on account of the Militia also appears. The riots soon assumed the magnitude of an armed insurrection. Bands of hair-brained enthusiasts in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire assembled, and determined to march up to London and remodel the Constitution. They would

" Beard the Lion in his den,"

and having ejected him by force, like the " Liberty lads over the sea," (*d*) would commence government on their own account. With this object in view, they armed themselves with pikes, scythe blades stuck on the end of poles, and other rude implements of warfare. With these and a few other necessities, including each a blanket for protection from the weather when bivouacking on the way, they commenced their mad enterprise. Their campaign, however, soon came to a disastrous termination, and the leaders, to the number of twenty-four, having been seized, were tried, and afterwards executed—eight at Lancaster and sixteen at York.

The Ping Riots of August 1842 did not assume the proportions of those previously described. Bands of men entered the mills

(4) *The American colonists in the War of Independence.*

which were running, and stopped the machinery by knocking out the boiler plugs, thus allowing the water and steam to escape. The object of the rioters was to provoke a general uprising of the operatives, for the purpose of compelling the Government to yield by force what they seemed unwilling to concede to milder measures. It was "an attempt on the part of the Chartists to stop all work until the Legislature should concede the doctrine of universal suffrage in the election of the House of Commons." (e)

This was a period of dire and appalling distress, and as usual the cotton manufacturing districts suffered most severely. The correspondent to the *Liverpool Mercury*, speaking of this neighbourhood and places adjacent, writes :

" This part of the country is in a deplorable state, for hundreds and thousands have neither work nor meat. They are daily begging in the streets of Haslingden, twenty or thirty together, crying for bread. Meetings are held every Sunday on the neighbouring hills, attended by thousands of poor, hungry, haggard people, wishing for any change, even though it should be death. On Sunday last a meeting was held on the hills near Accrington, and the persons present, it is said, covered an area of 4420 square yards of ground. They stood very near together in order to hear the speakers, who were stationed in a waggon in the centre of the ground, so that calculating six to the square yard, there must have been 26,000 persons present. The speakers, ten in number, were very violent, advising their hearers never to petition Parliament again, but to be determined to have a redress of grievances immediately. Resolutions to that effect were put to the meeting and carried unanimously. The people say they are determined to have their just rights, or die in the attempt, and say they will neither support delegates nor conventions, for present relief they want, and present relief they will have before another winter makes its appearance. They say they might as well die by the sword as by hunger."

(e) " Lancashire and the Cotton Famine," by Dr. Watts, p. 32.

One very gratifying exception to the prevailing distress of the time is mentioned in the following extract from a review of Dr. Taylor's "Notes of a Tour in the Manufacturing Districts of Lancashire in 1842." (f.)

"At the village of Rawtenstall, in the Forest of Rossendale, the tourist on a morning witnessed the Factory System under the fairest auspices, in the large establishment of the Messrs. Whitehead, where all was harmony and happiness. Here were to be seen comfortable and ample houses, clean and well-furnished; neat, healthy, and intelligent children; a school, well attended and on the best foundation; a handsome chapel; teetotalism in many cases; and money in the Savings Bank. He found the villagers healthy, happy, and contented. The operatives one and all declared that their only anxiety was, lest the progress of distress should reach the establishment of Holly-mount, and deprive them of the employment they possessed, and the comforts they produced." Unfortunately the distress did eventually extend to Rawtenstall, but the latter did not at this period suffer to the extent of other districts in the immediate vicinity.

There can be no question that "protection" was again at the root of the wide-spread misery and depression. The Corn Laws bore heavily on the poorer classes. Flour had risen to an enormous price; the produce of foreign countries being held in bond by the ruinous rates imposed upon its importation. Our great champions of Free Trade, Cobden and Bright, and a host of lesser stars in the political firmament—not forgetting Ebenezer Elliott, the Laureate of the people—were in the midst of their repeal agitation. But certain of our Legislators, as usual blind to the real evils that afflicted the nation, endeavoured to mitigate the distress by resorting to every proposed remedial measure but the true one. Emigration and colonisation found favour with many who were called statesmen, but who either were unable to perceive, or were indifferent to the fact that the only effect of these, on an

(f) In *Tait's Magazine*, September, 1842.

extensive scale, would be to rob the country of the flower of its population of both sexes, leaving behind the aged, the infirm, and the lazy, to be a still greater burden on labour at home.

Time, with healing on its wings, gradually brought relief to the sufferers ; and a few years later (in 1846) the Corn Laws, which had been the cause of unspeakable evils for a space of thirty years, were swept away.

Such is the story of the changes, the vicissitudes, and the progress of the Forest of Rossendale ; and on a review of all the facts, we must be ready to commend the foresight of those who nearly four hundred years ago, entertained the belief, that, "If the Deer were taken out of and from the said Forest, that then the same was likely to come and be brought and applied to some good purpose, so as that the commonwealth might be increased thereby."



APPENDIX.

MUSTER OF SOLDIERS IN LANCASHIRE—I. MARY.

In a curiously written manuscript, quoted in Gregson's *Fragments of Lancashire*, part i., p. 18, *et seq.*, is given an account of the Muster of Soldiers in the County Palatine of Lancaster in I. Mary, 1553, from which it appears that "Rossendall Forrest" furnished thirty-six men, and "Pendle Forrest," thirty-six. Each being more than double the number of men raised by any town within the Hundred.

In the list of the *Nomina Liberi Tenentes in Lancastriae Comitatu*, 18th James I., A.D. 1621, the following belonging to the Forest of Rossendale appear :—

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ra. Haworth de Musberrie. | Joh. Lord de Bacop. |
| Geof. Taylor de eadem. | Ja. Whitacre de Broadclough. |
| Law. Taylor de eadem. | Geo. Hargreaves de Goodshaw. |
| Joh. Tattersall de Tunstead. | Joh. Ormerod de Gamleyside. |
| Joh. Piliage (P Pilling) de eadem. | |

COPYHOLDERS IN ROSSENDALE DURING THE REIGN OF JAMES I.

The assessment of the mean rates of the Copyholders of the Forest of Rossendale towards the Composition Contribution for their estates by authority from the Commissioners, rated and

assessed by Robert Holden of Holden, Esqre, during the reign of James I. The list is contained in a MS Vol. of the period, in the possession of Mr. W. Waddington, of Burnley. (See *Ante* page 84.)

| DONNOCKSHAW. | | | CROWSHAWBOOTH. | | |
|------------------------------|----|-------|---------------------------|----|-------|
| | £ | s. d. | | £ | s. d. |
| Richard Townley, Esqre. . . | 1 | 1 8 | George Haworth. | 2 | 3 4 |
| John Townley, Gentleman. . | 1 | 1 8 | Dennys Haworth | 2 | 1 8 |
| Henheads | 0 | 0 10 | James Haworth | 1 | 10 0 |
| | £2 | 4 2 | Hugh Haworth, and John, | | |
| | | | his son | 1 | 10 0 |
| | | | Oliver Ormerod | 0 | 10 0 |
| GAMBLESIDE. | | | Hugh Halstead | 0 | 5 0 |
| John Birtwisle. | 1 | 1 4 | Francis Nuttall | 0 | 10 0 |
| Oliver Ormerod | 1 | 6 8 | Richard Dearden. | 0 | 3 4 |
| John Ormerod | 1 | 12 0 | John Haworth de Constable | 0 | 6 8 |
| | £4 | 0 0 | Henheads | 0 | 1 11 |
| | | | | £9 | 1 11 |
| LOVE CLOUGH. | | | CONSTABLAY. | | |
| John Holt, and George, his | | | John Haworth. | 0 | 12 6 |
| son | 1 | 6 3 | John Ashworth | 0 | 48 9 |
| Richard Hey | 0 | 6 8 | Edmund Ingham. | 0 | 12 6 |
| Wm. Birtwisle, and Richard, | | | Edward Rawstorn, of New- | | |
| his son | 0 | 16 8 | hall | 0 | 12 6 |
| George Dearden | 1 | 3 9 | Dennys Haworth. | 0 | 12 6 |
| Peter Hey. | 0 | 8 4 | George Haworth. | 1 | 5 0 |
| Richard Law | 0 | 5 0 | Thomas Holt | 0 | 6 3 |
| Henry Ramsbottom, and | | | Henheads | 0 | 1 10 |
| Peter, his son | 0 | 6 8 | | £5 | 1 10 |
| E. Chadwick, in right of his | | | | | |
| wife | 0 | 6 8 | ROWTONSTALE. | | |
| Henheads | 0 | 1 9 | Edward Rawsthorne, de | | |
| | £5 | 1 9 | Newhall | 1 | 7 1 |
| | | | James Lord | 0 | 4 7 |
| GOODSHAW. | | | Thomas Cranshawe. | 0 | 4 7 |
| George Hargreaves. | 1 | 19 11 | Richard Ormerod. | 0 | 6 2 |
| George Birtwisle, and Rich- | | | Peter Hey. | 0 | 0 1 |
| ard, his son | 1 | 6 8 | Richard Heape. | 0 | 5 2 |
| John Nuttall, of Deadwen- | | | Robert Hey, and John, his | | |
| clough | 0 | 6 8 | son | 0 | 6 2 |
| Alec Haworth | 0 | 13 4 | John Nuttall, of Dedwen- | | |
| George Haworth, of Craw- | | | clough | 0 | 4 10 |
| shawbooth. | 0 | 13 4 | Henry Nuttall. | 0 | 6 2 |
| Richard Hey | 0 | 6 8 | John Piccop. | 0 | 9 3 |
| Henheads | 0 | 1 9 | Henheads | 0 | 1 9 |
| | £5 | 8 4 | | £3 | 15 10 |

DEDWENCLOUGH.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-----|----|----|
| Francis Brigg | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| John Nuttall, of Newhallhey | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| Alexander Haworth | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| Wm. Heaton de Clough .. | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| Thomas Crowshaw | 0 | 11 | 10 |
| James Tattersall | 0 | 17 | 10 |
| John Nuttall de Clough, for Lands chargeable to the Minister of the New- church in Rossendale.. | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| John Ramabottom | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| Adam Bridge | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| Robert Broughton | 0 | 9 | 11 |
| Robert Rowe | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| John Bradley | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| James Birtwistle | 0 | 11 | 8 |
| John Dearden, of Wolfenden .. | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Wm. Heaton de Bule Eye.. | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| Henheads | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| | £10 | 14 | 4 |

WOLFENDEN BOOTH.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Edward Rawsthorne, of Newhall | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Edward Rawsthorne, of Lum .. | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| James Walton | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| James Wolfenden | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| Edward Taylor | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| James Ashworth, junr. | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| James Ashworth, senr. | 0 | 9 | 1 |
| John Ormerod | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| John Ashworth | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Robert Ashworth | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| William Taylor | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Oliver Ashworth | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Richard Ormerod | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| John Scholefield | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| John Ashworth | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Henheads | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| | £4 | 18 | 7 |

TUNSTEED.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|
| John Tattersall | 1 | 9 | 0 |
| John Pilling | 0 | 13 | 0 |
| Henry Cowoppe | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| John Kay | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| John Korshawe | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Anthony Nuttall | 0 | 13 | 4 |
| John Lawe | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| Henry Lawe | 0 | 7 | 4 |
| | £5 | 12 | 0 |

BACOP.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|-----|----|----|
| John Ashworth, for Lands there | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Edmund Tattersall, junr. .. | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| James Tattersall, junr. | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| James Tattersall, senr. | 0 | 7 | 6 |
| James Lord alt Boulton .. | 1 | 14 | 2 |
| James Lord alt Chapman .. | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| John Nuttall de Clough .. | 1 | 13 | 8 |
| John Tattersall | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| John Lord | 0 | 13 | 1 |
| Samuel Robertshawe | 0 | 6 | 2 |
| James Lord de Wear | 0 | 9 | 5 |
| Edmund Lord | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| James Whittaker | 1 | 8 | 4 |
| John Haworth | 0 | 2 | 11 |
| Lawrence Lord | 1 | 7 | 6 |
| Edmund Tattersall, senr. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Edward Rawsthorne de Newhall, for Rockcliffe Wood | 0 | 16 | 8 |
| | £11 | 16 | 8 |

COWOPPE.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Richard Hill | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Robt. Chadwick | 0 | 10 | 5 |
| George Haworth | 0 | 7 | 1 |
| Ralph Leach | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Bartholomew Tattersall .. | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| George Ormerod | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| John Ashworth | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Richard Holden | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| Oliver Holden | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Ralph Nuttall, and John, his son | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Edward Nuttall | 0 | 10 | 7 |
| Richard Ormerod | 0 | 12 | 2 |
| James Piccop, and John, his son | 0 | 14 | 2 |
| | £5 | 13 | 4 |

LENCHES.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|---|
| Edmund Pilling | 0 | 11 | 8 |
| Richard Ormerod | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| John Ashworth, and James, his son | 0 | 16 | 3 |
| James Hoult, and John, his son | 1 | 11 | 8 |
| Richard Taylor | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| | £4 | 6 | 8 |

Forest of Rossendale.

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NEWHALL HEY.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| John Nuttall | 3 | 2 | 11 |
| Thomas Cronshaw | 0 | 17 | 1 |
| Charles Ramsbotham | 1 | 14 | 2 |
| Henry Ramsbotham, and Peter, his son | 1 | 14 | 2 |
| Wm. Heaton de Clough .. | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| Richard Ashworth | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| | £7 | 13 | 4 |

OAKENHEADWOOD.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Peter Hey | 1 | 8 | 11 |
| Edward Ramsbotham, and Adam, his son | 1 | 8 | 11 |
| Thurston Ramsbotham, and Henry, his son | 0 | 14 | 5½ |
| Oliver Ramsbotham | 0 | 14 | 5½ |
| George Haworth | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Henry Haworth | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Francis Nuttall | 0 | 15 | 11 |
| Ralph Haworth | 0 | 2 | 7 |
| Reynold Haworth | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Henry Barnes | 0 | 2 | 9 |
| Agnes Haworth, widow, for Henry Haworth, her son | 0 | 4 | 11 |
| Thomas Lord | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| James Haworth | 0 | 1 | 10 |
| Lawrence Rawsthorne de Newhall | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Edward Rawsthorne de Newhall | 0 | 6 | 2 |
| Henry Ramsbotham, and Peter, his son | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| John Nuttall de Newhall- hey | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Edward Rawsthorne de Newhall, for two Milnes, with such soken and all appurtenances. | 0 | 13 | 4 |
| | £9 | 8 | 3 |

MUSBURY.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Ralph Haworth | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| John Holden, and Mar- garet, his wife | 0 | 16 | 3 |
| Tho. Kenyon | 0 | 8 | 1½ |
| Oliver Bridge | 0 | 8 | 1½ |
| George Haworth, and John, his son | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| Jefferey Taylor, and Ed- ward, his son | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| Carried forward .. | £8 | 2 | 6 |

MUSBURY—continued.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------------|-----|----|----|
| Brought forward | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| Lawrence Taylor | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| Christopher Cronshawe .. | 0 | 18 | 11 |
| Thomas Duckworth | 0 | 9 | 1 |
| John Duckworth | 0 | 14 | 2½ |
| Richard Entwistle | 0 | 19 | 1½ |
| Richard Cronshaw | 0 | 5 | 4 |
| | £13 | 1 | 8 |

HODDLESSEN.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|-----|
| Nicholas Grimshawe | 0 | 7 | 8 |
| Thurstan Mawdsley | 0 | 12 | 0½ |
| George Holden, senr. | 0 | 16 | 0½ |
| George Holden, junr. | 0 | 16 | 6½ |
| Gilbert Hey | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Wm. Yate, senr. | 0 | 11 | 11½ |
| Gyles Holme | 0 | 11 | 4 |
| Robt. Yate | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Henry Baron | 0 | 14 | 6 |
| John Welch, jure Uxoris [by right of his wife] .. | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| Gyles Yate | 0 | 14 | 6½ |
| James Yate | 0 | 14 | 10½ |
| James Knowles alt Haworth | 0 | 17 | 8 |
| Elizabeth Sharpe | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| George Yate | 0 | 2 | 8 |
| Robert Brindle | 0 | 7 | 8 |
| Wm. Yate, junior | 0 | 17 | 8 |
| | £9 | 19 | 11 |

WOLFENDEN.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Edward Rawsthorne, of Newhall | 0 | 15 | 1 |
| John Heyward | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| Roger Pilling | 0 | 7 | 3 |
| Dennys Hargreaves | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| George Ormerod, senr. | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Robert Heyward | 0 | 9 | 4 |
| Henry Nuttall | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| John Hargreaves | 0 | 12 | 8 |
| James Smith alt Lowe | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Erice Clayton | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| James Clayton | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Richard Ashworth | 0 | 5 | 10 |
| Robert Haworth | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| George Lord de Darcey Lever | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| James Tattersall | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| John Ashworth | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| James Lord de Horold- long | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Carried forward .. | £4 | 6 | 10 |

| WOLFENDEN—continued. | | | | WOLFENDEN—continued. | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|-----------------------------|----|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Brought forward..... | 4 | 6 | 10 | Brought forward..... | 10 | 0 | 5 |
| Elizab. Ashworth by Robert | | | | George Birtwisle, and | | | |
| Heyward for Gardeine. | 0 | 3 | 8 | Richard, his son..... | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Thomas Lawe | 0 | 5 | 6 | John Haworth de Barnes .. | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Hugh Pilling | 0 | 6 | 0 | George Hargreaves de Nabb | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| John Nuttall de Clough .. | 0 | 0 | 8 | John Haworth de Constable | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| And for Lands in Ded- | | | | John Ashworth | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| wen Clogh chargeable | | | | Edmund Ingham..... | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| to the Minister of New- | | | | Dennys Haworth..... | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| church in Rossendale .. | 0 | 3 | 2 | Richard Heape..... | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| Henry Haworth | 0 | 2 | 10 | John Nuttall, of Newhall | | | |
| John Dearden | 0 | 1 | 6 | Hey | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| Richard Hargreaves | 0 | 2 | 3 | Samuel Robertshaw | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| John Hargreaves, junr.... | 0 | 1 | 11 | Thomas Cronshawe..... | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Ralph Hey | 0 | 1 | 4 | James Tattersall de Dedwen- | | | |
| Richd. Piccop | 0 | 3 | 3 | clogh | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| George Ormerod, junr. | 0 | 6 | 2 | Edward Rawsthorn de Lumm | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Henry Haworth, senr. | 0 | 1 | 8 | James Birtwisle | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Charles Haworth | 0 | 1 | 8 | James Ashworth | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| James Haworth | 0 | 3 | 4 | Oliver Ashworth | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| James Haworth, of Crow- | | | | James Walton | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| shawbooth..... | 0 | 4 | 4 | Abraham Taylor | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Alexander Haworth, of | | | | Francis Bridge..... | 0 | 2 | 11 |
| Clough | 0 | 2 | 10 | Adam Bridge | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| John Holt, and George, his | | | | Willm. Heaton de Dedwen- | | | |
| son | 0 | 12 | 8 | clogh | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Robert Hey, and John, his | | | | Willm. Heaton de Bule Eye | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| son | 0 | 2 | 0 | John Kershaw de Tunstead, | | | |
| John Tattersall de Tunstead | 0 | 5 | 4 | and Henry, his son.... | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Richard Ormerod | 0 | 4 | 10 | | | | |
| James Whittaker de Bacop. | 0 | 3 | 2 | | | | |
| John Ormerod de Gamble- | | | | | | | |
| side..... | 0 | 10 | 0 | | | | |
| Oliver Ormerod, senr..... | 0 | 8 | 4 | | | | |
| Oliver Ormerod de Edge .. | 0 | 1 | 10 | | | | |
| John Birtwisle..... | 0 | 6 | 8 | | | | |
| George Hargreaves, of | | | | | | | |
| Goodshawe | 0 | 6 | 8 | | | | |
| Carried forward..... | £10 | 0 | 5 | | | | |

£13 5 1

Total year's Rental£131 3 8

Total 12 years' rental con-
tributed by the Rossen-
dale Copyholders ..£1574 4 0

LIST OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, FOR THAT PART
OF ROSSENDALE BELONGING TO NEWCHURCH, FROM
THE YEAR 1681 TO 1790.—Copied from an old MS. Book in the
possession of GEORGE HARGREAVES, Esq., J.P., Newchurch.

1681. Alexander Haworth of Deadwenclough, and James Taylor, Dean
Height.

1682. Adam Bridge, Deadwenclough, and Crofer Nuttal of Sisclough.

1683. Jno. Heywood of Newhouse, and Jno. Law of Bacup.

1684. Henry Ormerod and James Hargreaves.
1685. Robert Hargreaves and James Law.
1686. Richd. Heap and Jno. Ashworth.
1687. Henry Law, of Tunstead, and Geo. Ashworth of Newchurch.
1688. Henry Hargreaves, Nabb, and Law. Ashworth of Wolfenden.
1689. Jno. Lord of Bacup, and Edmd. Ashworth of Fearnese.
1690. Richd. Ashworth of Wolfenden, and James Haworth of the same.
1691. Saml. Lord of Bacup, and Law. Ashworth of Brockclough.
1692. Richd. Ormerod of Wolfenden, and Jno. Heyworth of the same.
1693. Law. Lord of Bacup, and Jno. Hoyle of the same.
1694. Geo. Hargreaves of Wolfenden, and Jno. Haworth, Deadwencilough.
1695. Richd. Heyworth, Harrast Hills, and Geo. Haworth of Bankhouse.
1696. Edwd. Ashworth of Whitewell Bottom, and Geo. Hargreaves, Deadwencilough.
1697. Richd. Heaton of Deadwencilough, and James Taylor of Walls.
1698. Jno. Lord of Broadclough, and Robt. Heyworth of Water.
1699. Oliver Ormerod, of Wolfenden, and Geo. Ashworth of Newchurch.
1700. James Law of Greenlaw, and John Ashworth of Chapel Hill.
1701. Henry Law of Tunstead, and Geo. Hargreaves, Edgeside.
1702. James Law of Greenlaw, and Abram Taylor of Dean Height.
1703. Robt. Whitaker, of Heald, and James Maydin, Broadclough.
1704. Richd. Ormerod, of Tunstead, and Geo. Hargreaves of Nabb.
1705. Law. Lord of Greensnook, and Oliver Ashworth, Fearnese.
1706. Henry Hargreaves, Fold, and Law. Lord, of Newchurch.
1707. Richard Heyworth, Derply, and Henry Shepherd of Bacup.
1708. Law. Ashworth of Brockclough, and Robt. Heyworth, Deanhead.
1709. James Hey of Boothfold, and James Mitchell of Tunstead.
1710. Abram Law of Holmes, and Jno. Lord of Derplyclough, being hired by James Heap of Bacup.
1711. James Piccop of Heightside, and Jno. Lord of Derplyclough.
1712. Henry Ashworth, Smallshay, and Jno. Hoyle.
1713. Jno. Rishton, Newchurch, and Jno. Lord of Lane Head.
1714. Wm. Heap of Huttock, and Jno. Ashworth of Miller Barn.
1715. Henry Hargreaves of Newchurch, and Jno. Lord, Simis.
1716. Jno. Haworth, Bank Top, and Jno. Heap.
1717. James Ashworth, Lane Head, and Jno. Ashworth, Scout.
1718. James Lord, Boothfold, and David Greenwood, Heald.
1719. Jno. Hoyle, Fall Barn, and Robt. Heyworth, Water.
1720. Henry Law of Tunstead, and Abram Law of Brex.
1721. Edmd. Whitaker of Doals, and Law. Ormerod of Edgeside.
1722. Jno. Mills of Hareholme, and James Heyworth of Deanhead.
1723. Jno. Nuttall of Tunstead, and Saml. Lord of Old Meadows.

- 1724. Geo. Hargreaves, Newchurch, and Law. Ashworth, Bankend.
- 1725. Jno. Taylor, Newchurch, and James Taylor of Walls.
- 1726. Geo. Haworth, Bankhouse, and Jno. Heyworth, Harrest Hills.
- 1727. Jno. Ramsbottom, Tunstead, and Jno. Ormerod, Shayclough.
- 1728. Jno. Pilling, Siscloough, and Jno. Lord of Sodhouse.
- 1729. Saml. Haworth of Wear, and Law. Ormerod, Edgeside.
- 1730. Jno. Baron of Lum, and Richd. Lord of Nabb.
- 1731. Jno. Haworth, Waterside, and Jno. Piccop of Sowclough.
- 1732. Saml. Haworth of Shayclough, and James Law of Acre Hill.
- 1733. Jno. Pilling, Wheel Head, and Geo. Piccop of Wainyate.
- 1734. Jno. Lord of Broadclough, and James Taylor, Deanheight.
- 1735. Jas. Law of Greenlaw, and Henry Ashworth of Miller Barn.
- 1736. Abram Taylor of Height Top, and Joshua Lord, Broadclough.
- 1737. Geo. Hargreaves, Chapel Hill, and Robt. Heyworth, Bacup.
- 1738. Richd. Ashworth of Boothfold, and Jno. Ashworth, Bank Top.
- 1739. Abram Nuttal of Heyhead, and Jno. Lord, Greensnook.
- 1740. James Pollard, Whams, and Joshua Ramsbottom, Brex.
- 1741. Jno. Hargreaves for Fearnos, and Jno. Whitaker, Broadclough.
- 1742. Christo. Hargreaves, Muckt Earth, and Geo. Law, Huttock End.
- 1743. James Ormerod, Edgeside, and Robt. Hargreaves of Hargreaves Fold.
- 1744. Oliver Ashworth of Height Side, and Geo. Ormerod of Cunliffe Clough.
- 1745. Jno. Ingham, Fern Hill, and Richd. Lord of Greens.
- 1746. James Piccop of Boothfield, and Richd. Lord of Lum.
- 1747. Richd. Ashworth of Wolfenden, and Jno. Heap of Huttock.
- 1748. Edwd. Lord of Bottom, and Oliver Pilling of Tunstead.
- 1749. Henry Hargreaves, Fanhouse, and Jonathan Ashworth, Tunstead.
- 1750. Richd. Pollard, Broadclough, and James Lord, Derplyclough.
- 1751. Jno. Law, Banksoes, and James Lord of Lane Head.
- 1752. Jno. Haworth, Brockclough, and Jno. Law of Briggclough.
- 1753. Robt. Scholfield, Newchurch, Tenant to Mr. Cobham, and Adam Scholfield, of Bacup.
- 1754. Hugh Taylor, Newchurch, and Abraham Tattersall, Top of Huttock.
- 1755. Hugh Taylor, hired by the Town for 12 Guineas.
- 1756. Mr. Ormerod, Tunstead, and Jno. Heyworth, Deanhead.
- 1757. Jno. Hargreaves, Newchurch, and Jno. Ashworth, Holling.
- 1758. Robt. Heyworth, Water, and Jno. Lord, Greensnook.
- 1759. James Lord, Boothfold, and Jno. Lord, Old Meadows.
- 1760. Jno. Nuttal, Tunstead, and Joshua Hoyle, Rockcliffewood.
- 1761. Geo. Ashworth, Whams, and Richd. Lord, Old Meadows.
- 1762. James Taylor, Walls, and Jno. Whitaker, Scar End.

| | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|
| 1763. | Jno. Law, Banksees, hired by the Town. | | |
| 1764. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1765. | Geo. Haworth, Shawclough, hired by the Town. | | |
| 1766. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1767. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1768. | Jonathan Ashworth, Tunstead, do. | | |
| 1769. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1770. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1771. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1772. | Oliver Ashworth, hired by the Town. | | |
| 1773. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1774. | Joshua Hargreaves, do. | | |
| 1775. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1776. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1777. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1778. | Jno. Whitaker, Tunstead, hired by the Town. | | |
| 1779. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1780. | Thos. Nuttal, Edgeside, do. | | |
| 1781. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1782. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1783. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1784. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1785. | Jno. Rasthorn, Brex, hired by the Town. | | |
| 1786. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1787. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1788. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1789. | Do. do. do. | | |
| 1790. | Do. do. do. | | |

The following are interesting as showing the money value of cattle, and the various articles named, at the date of the inventories :—

EXCERPTS FROM "AN APPRISALL OF THE GOODS OF EDWD. BUTTERWORTH, OF ROUND HOUSE, APPRAIZED THIS 3 DAY OF NOVEMBER, ANNO DNI. 1716."

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| 1 Black Cow, | . | . | . | . | £3 | 5 | 0 |
| 1 Red Cow, | . | . | . | . | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| 1 Stirk, | . | . | . | . | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| 1 Provinder Ark, | . | . | . | . | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 1 Hay Mowe, | . | . | . | . | 1 | 10 | 0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---|---|----|----|----|
| 1 | Wheel barrow and Ladder, | . | . | £0 | 2 | 0 |
| 1 | Calf Crib, | . | . | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 2 | Spinning Wheels, 2 pair Stock cards, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | Pair Combs and Stock, | . | . | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| | Turfe and Coal, | . | . | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | Couch Chair and Quishand, | . | . | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| 1 | Arm Chair, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 6 |
| 6 | Chairs and 6 Quishands, | . | . | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 1 | Flagon, 2 peuter Cans, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 10 | Peuter Cupps, | . | . | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| 1 | Brass Morter and pestel, | . | . | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 1 | Chaveing Dish, | . | . | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | Bédstead, | . | . | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | Brown Cadow, | . | . | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| 2 | Blanketts, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 30 | Harrow teeth, | . | . | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 4 | Sicles, | . | . | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 1 | Bridle and Sadle, | . | . | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| 1 | Trucle bed, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 1 | Green Cadow, | . | . | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| 1 | Ceild Chest, | . | . | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| 13 | Picktures, | . | . | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 12 | Table Napkins, | . | . | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 12 | Cheeses, | . | . | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| 1 | do., | . | . | 0 | 1 | 6 |

A TRUE INVENTORIE OF ALL THE GOODS CATTELLS AND CHATTELLS AND SUBSTANCE OF ROBERT HARDMAN OF GREENS, WITHIN SPOTLAND, AND PARISH OF ROTCHDALE AND COUNTY OF LANCASTER DECASED, VALUED AND APRISED THE TWENTITH SIXTH OF SEPTEMBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD GOD 1717, BY US, JAMES HOYLE, JAMES MILL, GAORGE LAW, AND HENRY HARDMAN.

| | | | |
|---|-----|----|----|
| Imprimis, his Apperrell and money in his purse, | £4 | 00 | 00 |
| Item, foure Cowes, | 12 | 00 | 00 |
| Item, two stots and three twinters, | 12 | 00 | 00 |
| Item, three Calves and three Stirkes, | 6 | 00 | 00 |
| Item, one Horse | 4 | 00 | 00 |
| Carried forward | £38 | 00 | 00 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---|---|-----------|
| Brought forward | . | . | . | £38 00 00 |
| Item, twenty sheepe, | . | . | . | 4 00 00 |
| Item, hay and Corne, | . | . | . | 10 00 00 |
| Item, one Swine, | . | . | . | 1 00 00 |
| Item, three Arkes, | . | . | . | 1 10 00 |
| Item, three Chists, | . | . | . | 1 00 00 |
| Item, four Beds and bedding, | . | . | . | 8 00 00 |
| Item, one prass and one Cubbard, | . | . | . | 1 10 00 |
| Item, two tables and one buffett, | . | . | . | 1 00 00 |
| Item, one Couch Cheare and Cheares, | . | . | . | 0 10 00 |
| Item, in brass and penter, | . | . | . | 1 00 00 |
| Item, in odd Husselements, | . | . | . | 0 10 00 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| | Item, | . | . | £68 00 00 |
| Item, money to draw, | . | . | . | 26 10 00 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| | | . | . | £94 10 00 |
| Datt to pay, | . | . | . | 73 10 00 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| | total, | . | . | £21 0 0 |
| <hr/> | | | | |

EXCERPTS FROM "AN APPRISALL AND INVENTORY OF ALL THE GOODS, CATTLES, AND CHATTLES OF JOHN LORD OF BROADCLOUGH, DECEASED, APPRISED THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, ANNO DOMINI 1724."

| | |
|---|----------|
| Item, Six Oxen, two Stirks, two Callfs, one | |
| Why and a Bull, standing at ye New Barn, | £30 00 0 |
| Item, Four Cows standing at Home and a | |
| Swine, | 15 00 0 |
| Item, Three Mares and Eleven Sheep, | 15 10 0 |
| Item, Two Ovil Tables, | 01 10 0 |
| Item, Two Oak Chears, | 00 08 0 |
| Item, Ten Ash Chears, | 00 09 0 |
| Item, A Longsettle, A Table with Drawers, | 01 05 0 |
| Item, A Clock, | 01 05 0 |
| Item, All his Books and Case, | 01 00 0 |
| Item, Tongs and Fire Iron, | 01 01 0 |
| Item, a Chest and Thirty Trenchers, | 00 15 0 |
| Item, A Cuboard and Two Glasscases, | 00 13 0 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Item, A Close Stool, | £00 05 0 |
| Item, A Great Ark, Meal and Wheal, | 10 00 0 |
| Item, A Hulse headed Bed and Bedding, | 01 05 0 |
| Item, Cradley, Goo Wane, Little Table, | 00 06 0 |

“THE OLD SCHOOL,” BACUP.

The following Memorandum, relating to the “Old School” at Bacup, which formerly stood on the site of the present Mechanics’ Institution, is copied from a volume of printed Sermons in the possession of the late Samuel Howorth, of Tunstead. The memorandum is written on the margin of the fourth and fifth pages of the last sermon in the volume :—

“4: Oct^r. 1747 this day Ould Mr Houlden Burnley parish Came to Baccop chapil Being the fourt gurinney [? journey] So the doars were made by the Schoolmaster by John Lord Broadclough Order & John Heape huttock top Brake in at an Ould Doare that were made with Ould boards and Stoans & so Crept in as he Could & Opened y^e Other doars then Henry Lord Boulton went in & the [? three, or they] of his partey this were in the forenoone & then aftor dinor Mr Uttley went into this Chapil or Scoole house and Red & preached the word of God & doctorin of Jesus Christ : Joel : 2 Chap^r vers 13. Rent your harts & not your Garments & turn vnto the Lord your God for he is Gracious and mercyfull slow to anger and of Great kindness and Repenteth him of the Evil.

“JUDITH HOWORTH.

“9 Oct^r 1747 Mr Houlden Came again to Baccop & Ordered Vttley 2 days in a month & Richard Ashworth 1 & Hen^r Lord Boulton 1 to preach & teach the word of God & the Gospil of Jesus Christ in the Schoole house or Baccop chapil.”

And apart from the above is the following, written on the margin at the foot of the page :—

“the [? they] should have Cufenanted one with another these ffefies & it is But them & thair Heirs.

A LIST OF ROSSENDALE MAGISTRATES, FROM THE FIRST
APPOINTMENT IN 1824 TO THE YEAR 1892.

| Name. | Place of Abode. | Date of Qualification. | Hundred. |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| James Whitaker,* | Broadclough, Bacup. | April 29, 1824, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| John Holt,* | Stubby Lee, Bacup. | April 19, 1838, | Salford Hundred. |
| John Earnshaw,* | Mount Pleasant, Bacup. | April 19, 1838, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| John Ormerod,* | Bankside, Bacup. | July 4, 1838, | Do. |
| George Ormerod,* | Fern Hill, Bacup. | May 23, 1844, | Do. |
| John Brooks,* | Crawshaw Hall, Crawshawbooth. | June 30, 1847, | Do. |
| Robert Munn,* | Heath Hill, Stacksteads. | Oct. 20, 1847, | Do. |
| John Lord,* | Irwell Terrace, Bacup. | Oct. 20, 1847, | Do. |
| George Hargreaves,* | Newchurch. | Nov. 3, 1847, | Do. |
| Thomas Grimshaw,* | Pierce Clough, Water. | April 5, 1848, | Do. |
| David Whitehead,* | Holly Mount, Rawtenstall. | April 9, 1850, | Do. |
| Geo. Henry Ormerod,* | Edge Side, Newchurch. | June 30, 1852, | Do. |
| John Howarth,* | Higher Hempsteads, Bacup. | July 5, 1852, | Do. |
| Lord Crawshaw, | Crawshaw Hall, Crawshawbooth. | July 4, 1855, | Do. |
| John Whitaker,† | Broadclough, Bacup. | July 4, 1855, | Do. |
| John Dawson,* | Mount Pleasant, Bacup. | April 5, 1857, | Salford Hundred. |
| James Maden Holt, M.A. | Stubby Lee, Bacup. | April 5, 1858, | Do. |
| Robert Munn, jun., (Lt.-Col.)† | Thistle Mount, Newchurch. | May 27, 1858, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| Richard Ashworth,* | Lea Bank, Rawtenstall. | May 19, 1859, | Salford Hundred. |
| John Aitken, (Capt)* | Lane End, Bacup. | May 22, 1862, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| Jos. Wood Whitehead* | Alder Grange, Rawtenstall. | May 22, 1862, | Do. |
| John B. Whitehead, | Ashday Lea, Rawtenstall. | April 8, 1863, | Salford Hundred. |
| Edward Hoyle, | Spring Mount, Bacup. | April 8, 1867, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| James Munn,* | Fern Hill, Bacup. | April 8, 1867, | Do. |
| Henry Hoyle Hardman,* | Horncliffe House, Rawtenstall. | April 10, 1867, | Do. |
| James Smith Sutcliffe,* | Beech House, Bacup. | Jan. 4, 1869, | Salford Hundred. |
| Edward Ashworth, | Staghills, Waterfoot. | May 24, 1869, | Do. |
| Henry Maden,* | Rockcliffe House, Bacup. | May 24, 1869, | Do. |
| Thomas Aitken,* | Holmes, Bacup. | Oct. 20, 1869, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| Thomas Smith,* | Flaxmoss, Haslingden. | May 18, 1870, | Do. |
| Thomas Whitaker, | Wellbank, Haslingden. | Feb. 26, 1872, | Do. |
| Richard Townsend, | Bent Gate, Haslingden. | May 23, 1872, | Do. |
| James Rushton,* | Forest House, Newchurch. | June 29, 1874, | Do. |
| Jos. Hardman Worrall,* | Rochdale Road, Bacup. | Aug. 1, 1878, | Salford Hundred. |
| Robert Whitaker Munn,* | Heath Hill, Stacksteads. | Aug. 1, 1878, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| Thos. Hoyle Whitehead, | Holly Mount, Rawtenstall. | Aug. 1, 1878, | Salford Hundred. |
| William Brooks, | Sunnyside, Rawtenstall. | Jan. 2, 1884, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| George Ashworth Smith, | Westbourne House, Flaxmoss, Haslingden. | Nov. 26, 1884, | Do. |
| John Warburton, | Greenfield, Haslingden. | Nov. 26, 1884, | Do. |
| Jonathan A. Harrison, | Regent Street, Haslingden. | Nov. 26, 1884, | Do. |
| John Hargreaves, | Greensnook, Bacup. | Oct. 21, 1885, | Salford Hundred. |
| Henry H. Bolton, | Heightside, Newchurch. | Oct. 26, 1885, | Blackburn Hundred. |
| George Shepherd, | Holmes Villa, Bacup. | Dec. 6, 1889, | Do. |
| William Mitchell, | Fern Hill, Stacksteads. | Dec. 6, 1889, | Do. |
| James Haworth, | Spring Mount, Bacup. | Dec. 6, 1889, | Do. |
| Joshua Hoyle, jun., | Bankside, Bacup. | Dec. 6, 1889, | Do. |
| J. H. Hardman (Lt.-Col.), | Oak Hill, Rawtenstall. | Feb. 12, 1890, | Do. |
| James Edward Holt, | Holmesfield House, Rawtenstall. | Feb. 12, 1890, | Do. |
| Edward Martin Wright, | Spring Mount, Bacup. | Feb. 22, 1892, | Salford Hundred. |
| John Henry Maden, M.P., | Rockcliffe House, Bacup. | April 11, 1892, | Do. |
| Joshua Craven Hoyle, | Oak House, Bacup. | April 11, 1892, | Do. |

* Deceased.

† Left the neighbourhood.

On the 29th July 1857 the Bacup Court-House was opened; the first Petty Sessions there being held on that day. Prior to that date, the Bacup Petty Sessions were held at the George and Dragon Inn.

The first Petty Sessions at Rawtenstall were held at the Queen's Arms Hotel, on the 4th May, 1857.

VERTICAL SECTION OF THE STRATA IN THE FOREST OF
ROSSENDALE, BY JOHN AITKEN, F.G.S.

The thicknesses here given are not in all cases from actual measurement. Wherever not measured, however, they have been carefully estimated, and may be taken as close approximations. It is scarcely necessary to state that no two sections are exactly similar.

| Succession of Strata. | Ft. | In. |
|---|----------|-----|
| DRIFT AND SURFACE SOIL. | | |
| 1 Gray rock separating into flags and sets, but not of good quality; surfaces much ripple marked—Derplay Hill, Sharneyford, Longshaw, Easden Wood, | 10 | 0 |
| 2 Shale very black, near the bottom—Derplay Hill, Easden Wood, Sharneyford, | 60 | 0 |
| 3 Rock. Fine grained yellow laminated sandstone, separates into roofing tiles and flags—Heald, Sharneyford, and Easden Wood, | 5 | 0 |
| 4 Shale, strong and dark coloured, | 12 | 0 |
| 5 Rock. Fine yellow tile and flag-rock, similar to No. 3, | 6 | 0 |
| 6 Shale, top of Dulesgate, about | 30 to 45 | 0 |
| 7 Fine-grained free yellow rock; produces capital building stone; rather flaggy towards top, but stronger and more massive in the lower part—dip, 8° to the west, Clough Head, Sharneyford, | 27 | 0 |
| 8 Shale, top of Dulesgate Valley, | 120 | 0 |
| 9 Coarse, soft, friable sand rock, showing good examples of false bedding—top of Tooter Hill, and at Culvert coal-pit, Dulesgate, varying much in thickness, say* | 30 | 0 |
| 10 Shale, sides of Tooter Hill, Dulesgate, | 65 | 0 |

*At Culvert it has a thickness of about 60 feet. Frequently absent.

Forest of Rossendale.

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| Succession of Strata. | | Ft. In. |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| 11 | Hard bluish-gray rock; on surfaces of the several layers are numerous indentations and trail-like markings—Reaps Moss, Old Meadows, Broad Clough Heights, Dulesgate, &c., | 11 0 |
| 12 | Black and brown shales—Hoyle Hey Clough, Old Shaw Dean; remains of fishes in the lower portion overlying the 40 yards of coal, | 70 0 |
| 13 | Coal, 40 yards mine, (half-yard mine,) worked at numerous places in the neighbourhood, | 1 5 |
| 14 | Fire-clay, much used for brick-making, | 3 0 |
| 15 | Rocky bands and shale—Park Mill, Sharneyford, Old Shaw Dean. Frequently absent, | 5 0 |
| 16 | Brown shale—Hoyle Hey Clough, Greave, Dulesgate, &c., | 36 0 |
| 17 | Coal—Higher Change, Hoyle Hey, near Bay Horse Inn, Dulesgate, Old Shaw Dean, &c., 1 inch to | 0 2 |
| 18 | Fire-clay, | 4 0 |
| 19 | Shale—Greave Clough, Old Shaw Dean, Dulesgate, | 56 0 |
| 20 | Coal—Higher Foot, Clough east of Shawforth, Holmes Clough Bacup, Small Shaw Dean. This mine unites with the underlying Gannister Mine, about 1½ miles east of Bacup, and forms the 5 feet mine, | 0 8 |
| 21 | Fire-clay, | 1 6 |
| 22 | Seat rock, soft shaly rock—Greave, | 1 6 |
| 23 | Shale, or soft valueless false-bedded rock, irregularly stratified—Oaken Clough, Greave, Higher Broad Clough. This becomes shale after the union of the two mines referred to above, | 40 0 |
| 24 | Coal—Gannister or Mountain Mine, Oaken Clough, Dulesgate, Hogshead, Rowley Moor, &c., from 5 feet to | 2 6 |
| 25 | Fire-clay, full of <i>stigmara ficoides</i> , | 2 6 |
| 26 | Seat rock, or Gannister, fine-grained, light-coloured, siliceous rock, very irregularly bedded, full of vegetable remains and carbonaceous markings. On Rowley Moor, it is a fine crystalline Gannister,* | 12 0 |
| 27 | Black shale; contains fish remains in the lower portion—Greave, Oaken Clough, Old Shaw Dean, | 9 0 |

* This rock does not occur under the Gannister Mine at Oaken Clough.

| Succession of Strata. | | Ft. In. |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| 28 | Coal—Lower Foot, or Spanish Juice Mine, Oaken Clough, Greave, Old Shaw Dean, Bay Horse Inn, Dulesgate, Holmes, &c., | 0 8 |
| 29 | Fire-clay—Greave, Rowley Moor, and other places, | 4 0 |
| 30 | Light gray shale—Shawforth, Oaken Clough, | 12 0 |
| 31 | Dark shales, | 14 0 |
| 32 | Shaley impure coal—Bassy or Salts Mine. Shale, with bands of coal, at Holmes Quarry Bacup, Walmsley Clough, Intac, Rowley Moor, | 2 0 |
| 33 | Brown strong shale—Holmes Quarry, Bacup, Meadow Top, Deansgreave, | 6 0 |
| 34 | Fine-grained brown sand-rock, Woodhead Hill rock,* much false bedded, and yields but an indifferent building stone in this neighbourhood—Holmes and Nut Mill Bacup, Undershore, near Britannia Mill, Dulesgate, &c., | 24 0 |
| 35 | Shale—Undershore, Dulesgate, &c., | 50 0 |
| 36 | Coal, Deansgreave, Bacup, Hud Clough Colliery Facit, Greens Clough near Portsmouth, | 0 10 |
| 37 | Underclay, | 1 6 |
| 38 | Upper rough-rock; † coarse rough grit full of rounded water-worn quartz pebbles—Bank House, Sheep House Clough, behind the Co-operative Store Bacup, along Brandwood Moor, Banks' Mill Dulesgate, Sent Naze, &c., | 15 0 |
| 39 | Very black shale, full of vegetable impressions—Deans- greave, Hudclough Facit, ‡ | 1 0 |
| 40 | Coal—Feather Edge, or Sand-Rock Mine, Co-operative Store, and Bank House Bacup; Deansgreave, Shaw- forth and Banks' Mill Dulesgate, | 1 4 |
| 41 | Underclay, always found with the coal, | 3 0 |
| 42 | Lower rough-rock, similar to the higher section, but a little stronger and more massive—localities similar to 38, | 24 0 |
| 43 | Strong brown shale—Hell Clough, Shawforth flag quarries, Dulesgate, under the Bank House rock, along the north- westerly side of Newchurch Road, Bacup, § | 30 0 |

This mine is a little thicker at Ending, where it has been worked to a small extent.

* Named from being found highly developed at the Woodhead Hill Tunnel, on the M. S. and L. Railway.

† At Holcombe Hill, this rock attains a thickness of 66 feet.

‡ This shale does not occur in any of the sections at Bacup.

§ At this place the shale is considerably in excess of the 30 feet named above.

At Bank Head it runs up to about 120 feet, and on the Crowthawbooth side of the mine it attains a thickness of 310 feet. At Holcombe it is only a few inches.

Forest of Rossendale.

343

| Succession of Strata. | | Ft. In. |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| 44 | Good, hard smooth bedded flags, known as Haslingden flags—Hell Clough, Shawforth, Fo' Edge, Cragg, &c., | 18 0 |
| 45 | Strong brown shale—Rake Head, Crawshawbooth, &c., | 72 0 |
| 46 | Flag-rock, similar to 44—at Rake Head, Hirdle Heights, Crawshawbooth, &c., | 20 0 |
| 47 | Strong brown shale, with layers of rock and rocky bands—Thrutch, top of Coupe Valley, Crawshawbooth, &c., | 150 0 |
| 48 | Coal—Horncliffe Wood, Coupe, Dulesgate, Brooksbottom, Balladen, and Crawshawbooth, | 0 9 |
| 49 | Shale—Horncliffe Wood, Dulesgate, | 25 0 |
| 50 | Coal—Horncliffe Wood, Crawshawbooth, Holden Wood, Brooksbottom, &c., | 0 6 |
| 51 | Coarse sharp grit—railway cutting, New Hall Hey, Brooksbottom, &c., | 24 0 |

ELEVATIONS.

| | Feet. |
|---|-------|
| Pendle Hill, | 1831 |
| Top of Leach, | 1550 |
| Whittle Pike, | 1534 |
| Higher Hill, | 1500 |
| Trough Edge End, near Hogshead Law, | 1475 |
| Thieveley Pike, | 1474 |
| Hogshead Law, | 1460 |
| Coupe Law, | 1438 |
| Derplay Hill, | 1429 |
| Tooter Hill, | 1420 |
| Heald Moor, | 1417 |
| Flour Scar Hill, | 1380 |
| Fo' Edge, | 1350 |
| Cribden, | 1317 |
| Nutshaw Hill, | 1260 |
| Holcombe Hill, (base of Peel Monument,) | 1162 |
| Hyle, | 1150 |
| Musbury Tor, | 1115 |
| Seat Naze, | 990 |
| Bacup, (St. John's Church,) | 849 |
| Newchurch, (Church,) | 794 |
| Haslingden, (Commercial Inn,) | 794 |

| | Feet. |
|--|-------|
| Holcombe Church, | 775 |
| Edenfield, (Horse and Jockey,) | 677 |
| Rawtenstall, (Church,) | 557 |
| Ramsbottom, | 433 |
| Todmorden, | 409 |
| Burnley, (Church,) | 388 |

THE ROSSENDALE PARLIAMENTARY DIVISION.

Rossendale was created a Parliamentary Division on June 25th, 1855.

The Division embraces the whole of the Forest of Rossendale proper (with the exception of certain detached portions) and the Town of Haslingden in addition.

The first Parliamentary Election for the Division took place 27th November, 1885, when Lord Hartington (now Duke of Devonshire) was returned as its first representative in the House of Commons.



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